HUNTER×HUNTER™

ハンター×ハンター

10

SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED

Story & Art by

YOSHIHIRO TOGASHI

イリオモテヤマネコ
とびだし注意
ヤマネコが
いるかも！
スピード落としてね
沖縄県

冨樫義博

Note: The sign says "Iriomote Wildcats Crossing. Watch out! Please slow down." –Ed.

We didn't see any.

Yoshihiro Togashi

Yoshihiro Togashi's manga career began in 1986 at the age of 20, when he won the coveted Osamu Tezuka Award for new manga artists. He debuted in the Japanese **Weekly Shonen Jump** magazine in 1989 with the romantic comedy **Tende Shôwaru Cupid**. From 1990 to 1994 he wrote and drew the hit manga **YuYu Hakusho**, which was followed by the dark comedy science-fiction series **Level E,** and finally this adventure series, **Hunter x Hunter**, available from VIZ Media's SHONEN JUMP Advanced imprint. In 1999 he married the manga artist Naoko Takeuchi.

HUNTER X HUNTER Volume 10
The SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED Manga Edition

STORY AND ART BY
YOSHIHIRO TOGASHI

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RATED T+ FOR OLDER TEEN
PARENTAL ADVISORY
HUNTER X HUNTER is rated T+ for Older Teen and is recommended for ages 16 and up. Contains realistic violence and mature language.

THE WORLD'S MOST CUTTING-EDGE MANGA
SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED
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SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED MANGA

HUNTER × HUNTER

ハンター × ハンター

Story & Art by
**Yoshihiro
Togashi**

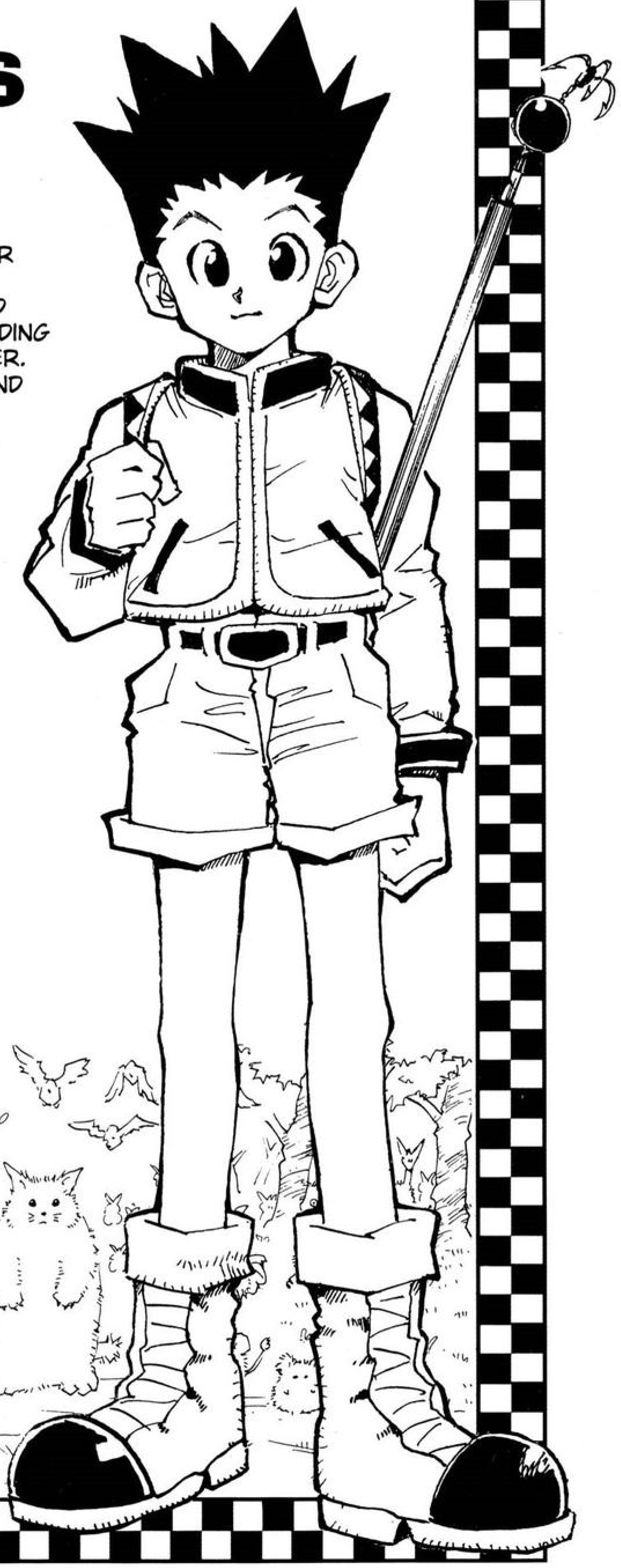
Volume 10

CHARACTERS

The Story Thus Far

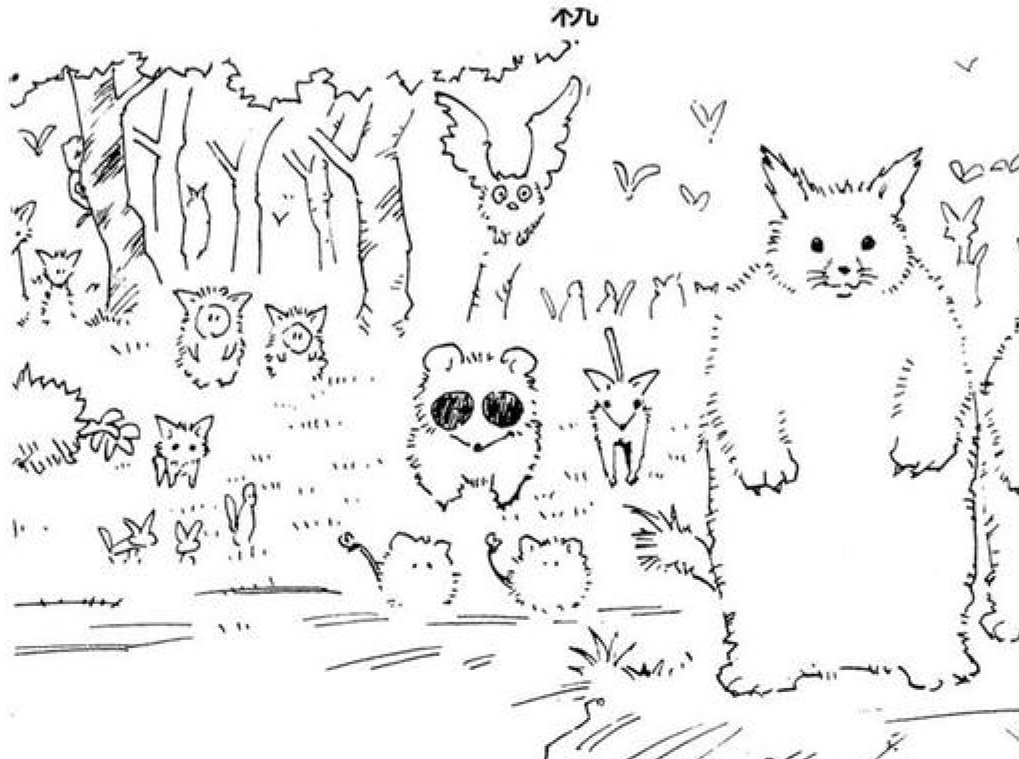
GON ONCE DREAMED OF BECOMING A HUNTER LIKE HIS LONG-LOST FATHER, THE GREAT GING FREECCS. NOW THAT GON HAS PASSED THE HIGHLY SELECTIVE LICENSING EXAM, FINDING HIS FATHER WILL PROVE TO BE EVEN HARDER.

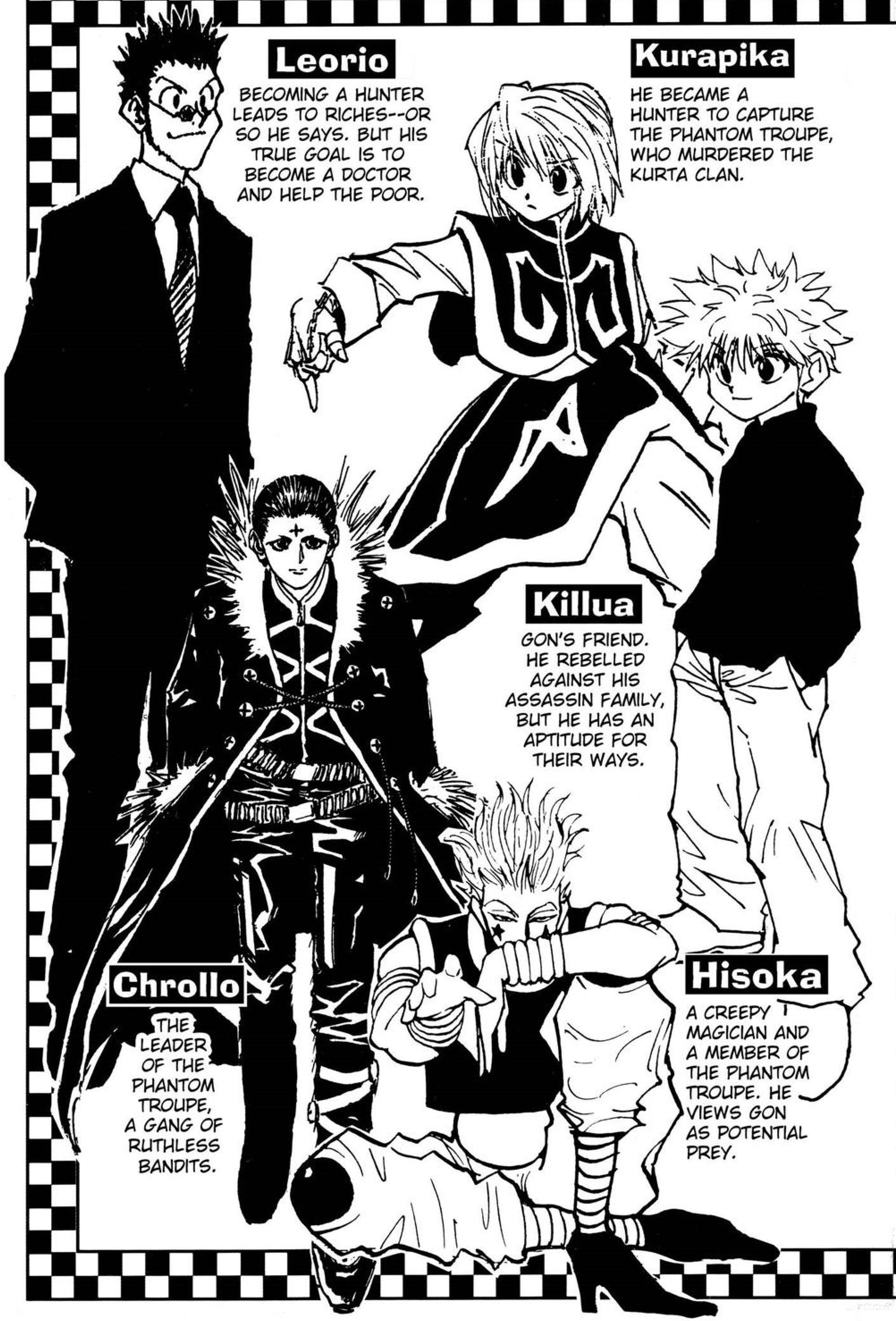
ONE OF THE CLUES THAT GING LEFT BEHIND IS A MEMORY CARD FOR THE FABLED GAME GREED ISLAND. GON HEADS TO AN AUCTION IN YORKNEW TO OBTAIN A COPY, AND TRIES TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE EXORBITANT MINIMUM BID. HE CHANCES UPON A BOUNTY HUNT THAT IS OFFERING A SUBSTANTIAL REWARD, BUT THE TARGET TURNS OUT TO BE THE PHANTOM TROUPE. MEANWHILE, KURAPIKA HAS FINALLY CORNERED ONE OF THEIR MEMBERS...



Gon

OUR EAGER HERO. NOW A HUNTER, HE'S ON A QUEST TO BE REUNITED WITH HIS FATHER!





Leorio

BECOMING A HUNTER LEADS TO RICHES--OR SO HE SAYS. BUT HIS TRUE GOAL IS TO BECOME A DOCTOR AND HELP THE POOR.

Kurapika

HE BECAME A HUNTER TO CAPTURE THE PHANTOM TROUPE, WHO MURDERED THE KURTA CLAN.

Killua

GON'S FRIEND. HE REBELLED AGAINST HIS ASSASSIN FAMILY, BUT HE HAS AN APTITUDE FOR THEIR WAYS.

Chrollo

THE LEADER OF THE PHANTOM TROUPE, A GANG OF RUTHLESS BANDITS.

Hisoka

A CREEPY MAGICIAN AND A MEMBER OF THE PHANTOM TROUPE. HE VIEWS GON AS POTENTIAL PREY.

HUNTER×HUNTER™

Volume 10

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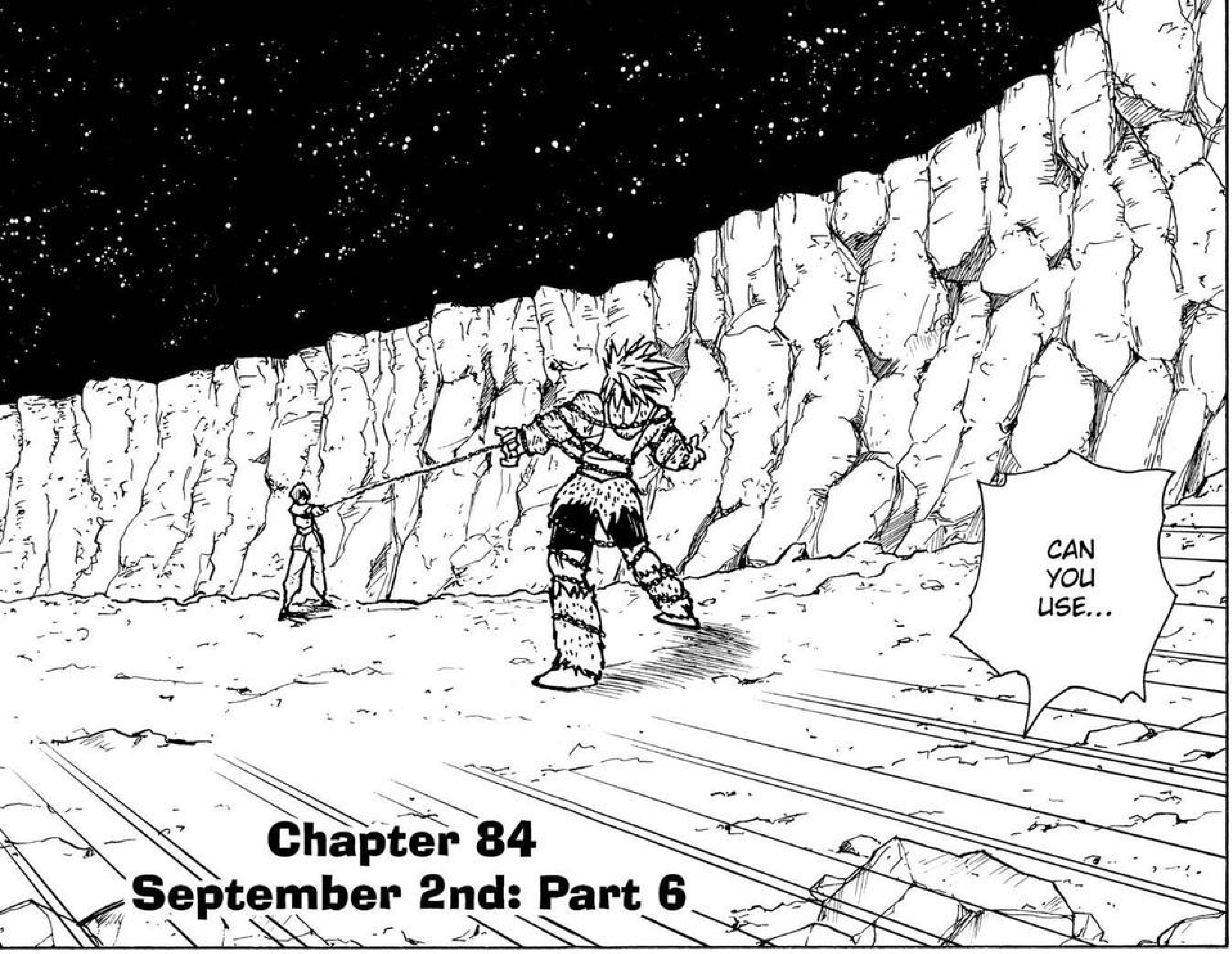
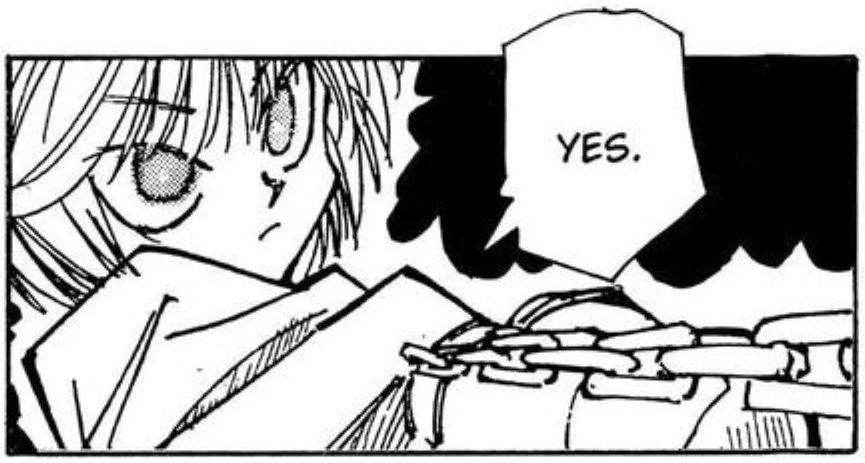
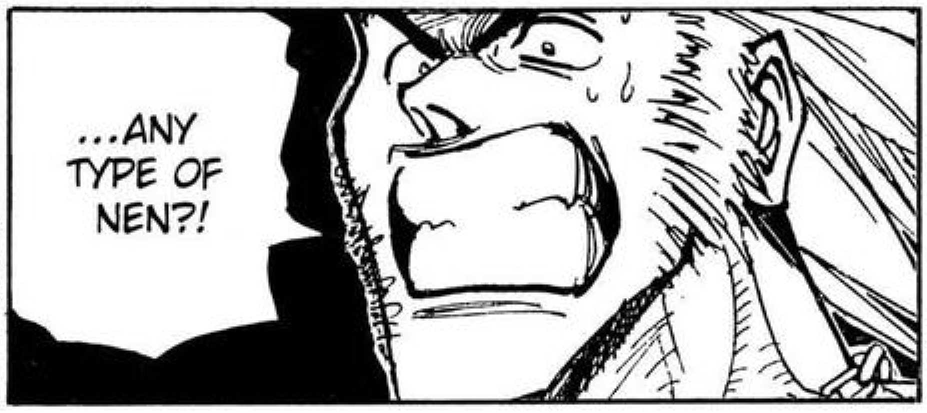
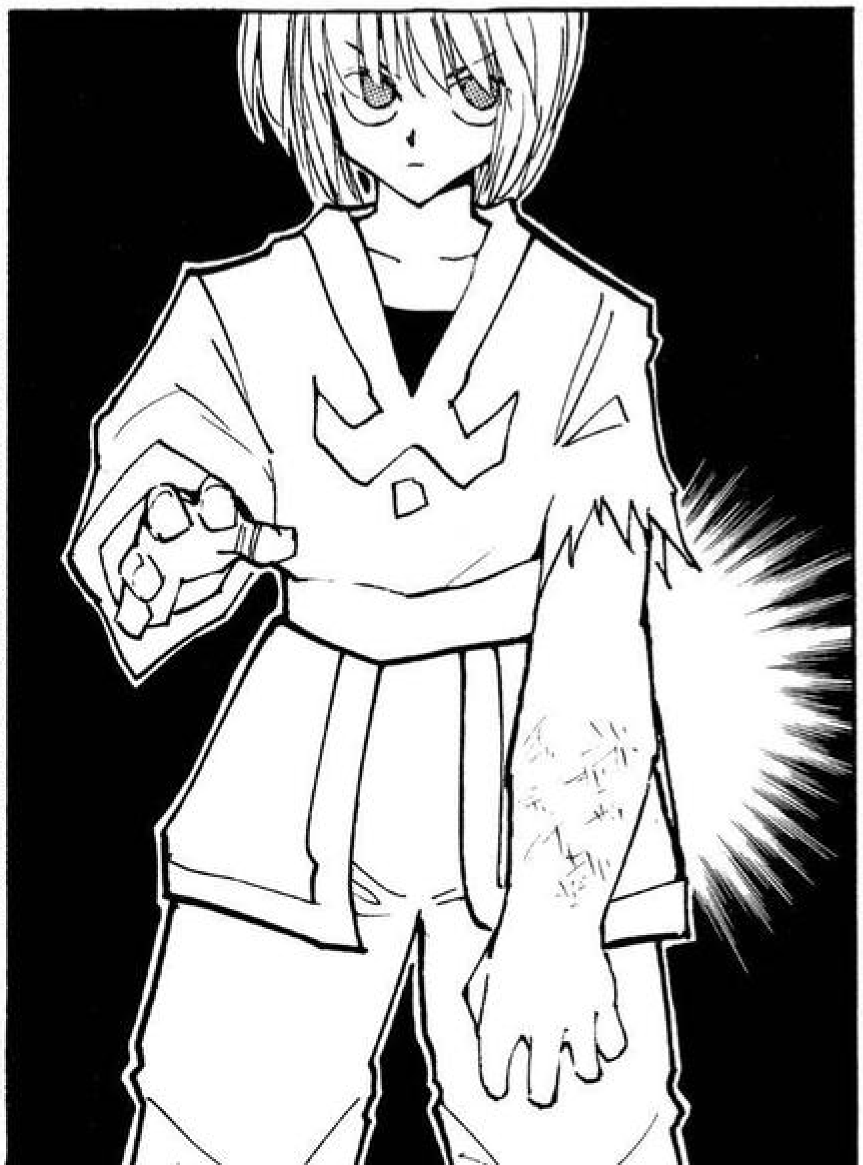


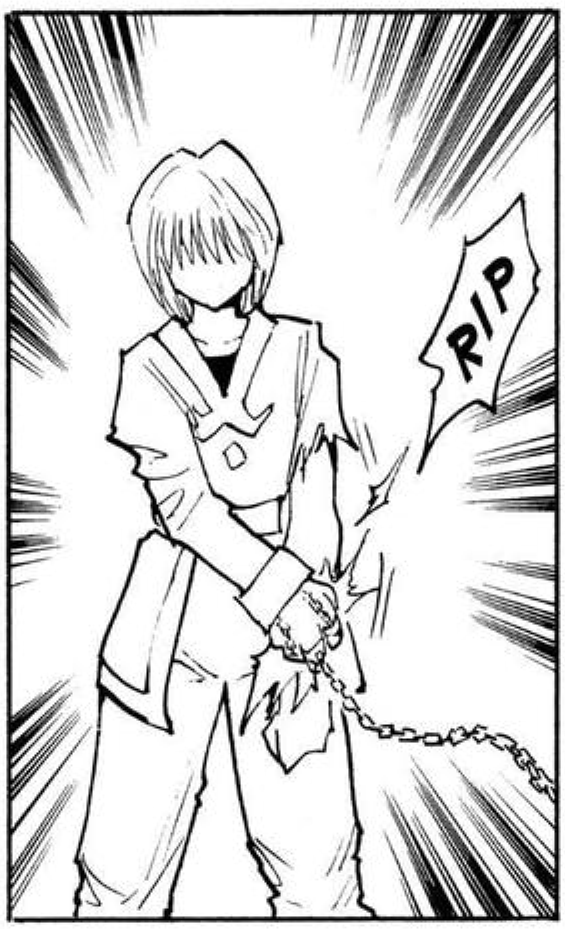
Chapter 84
September 2nd: Part 6

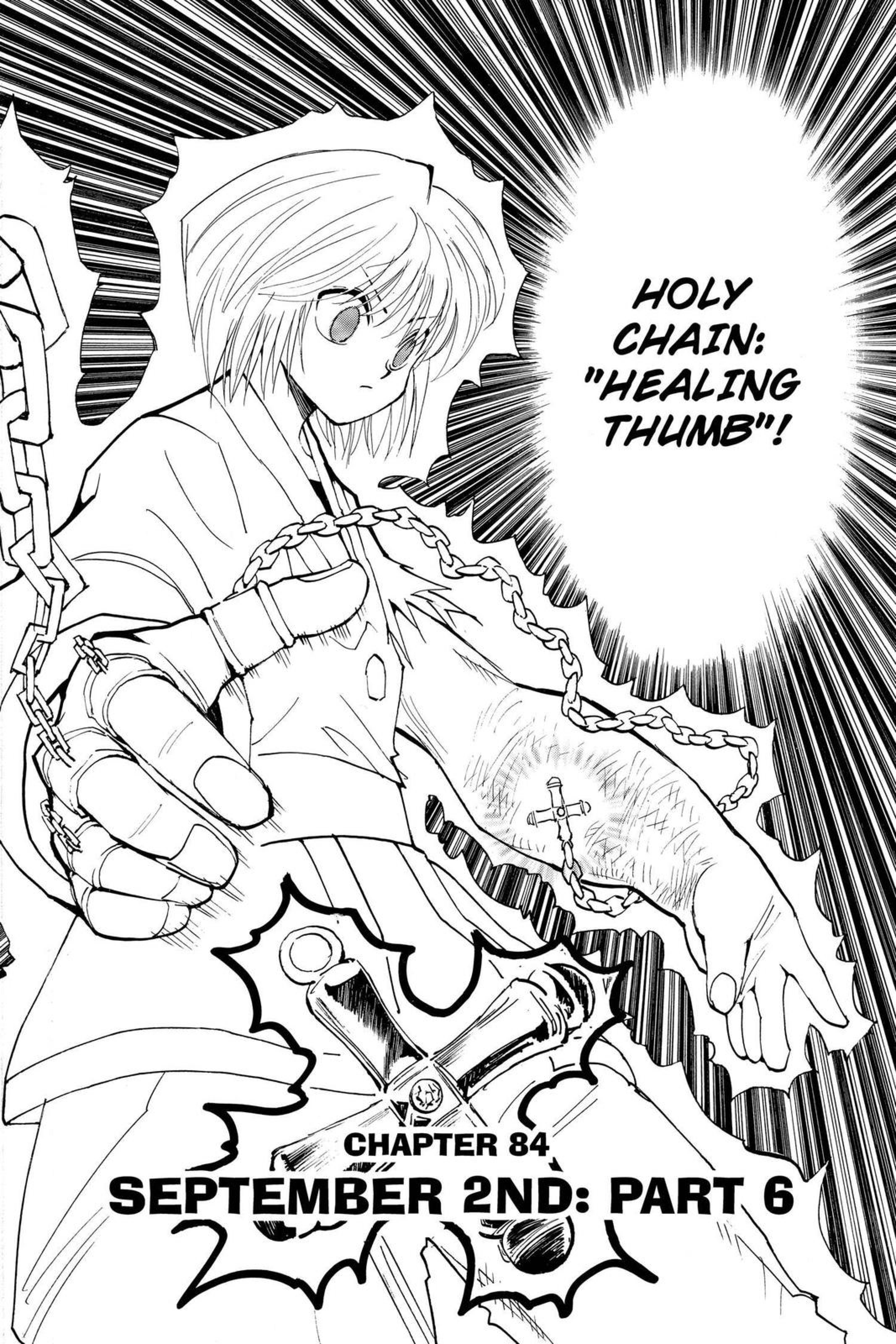



...ANY TYPE OF NEN?!

FOR INSTANCE ...

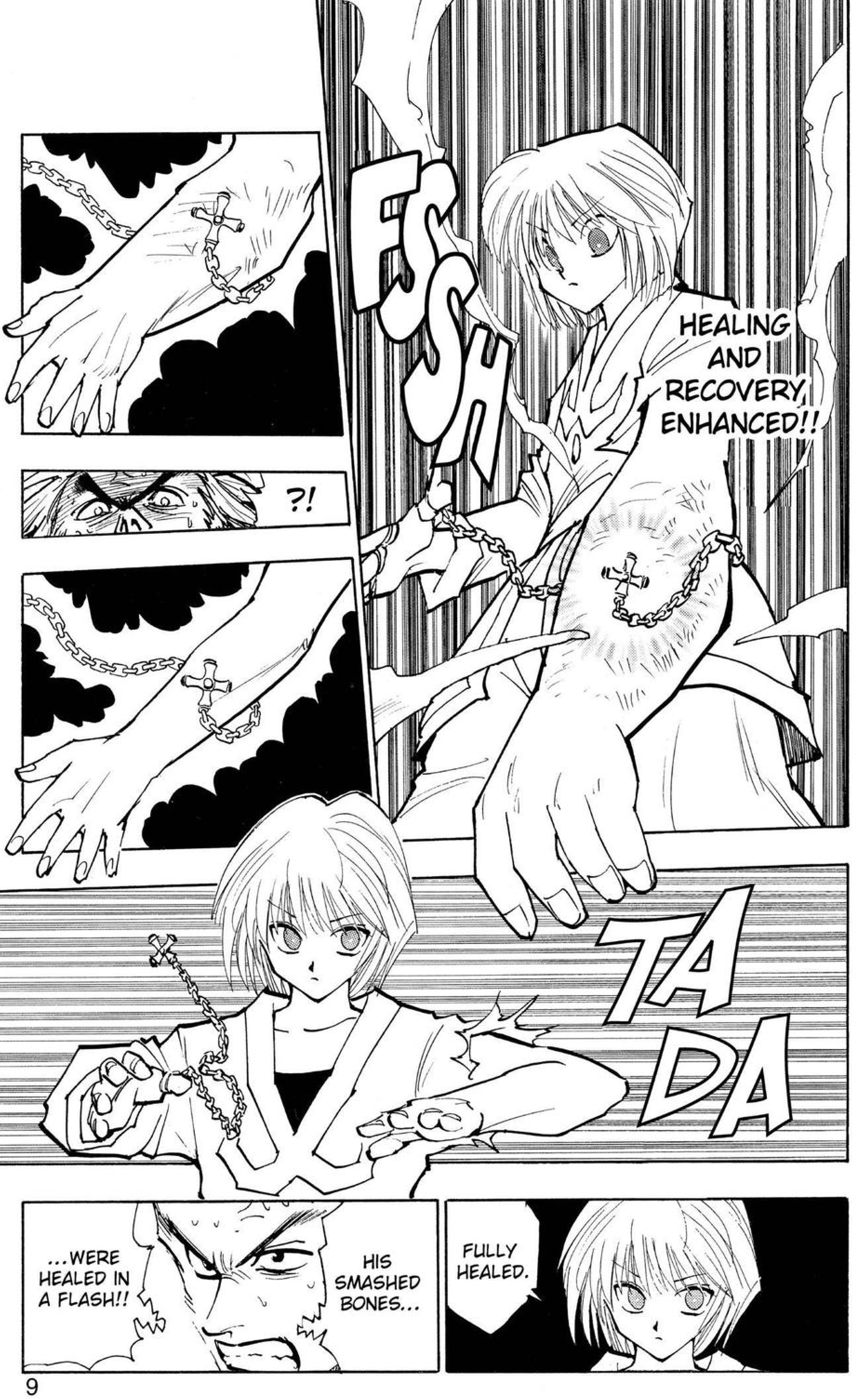


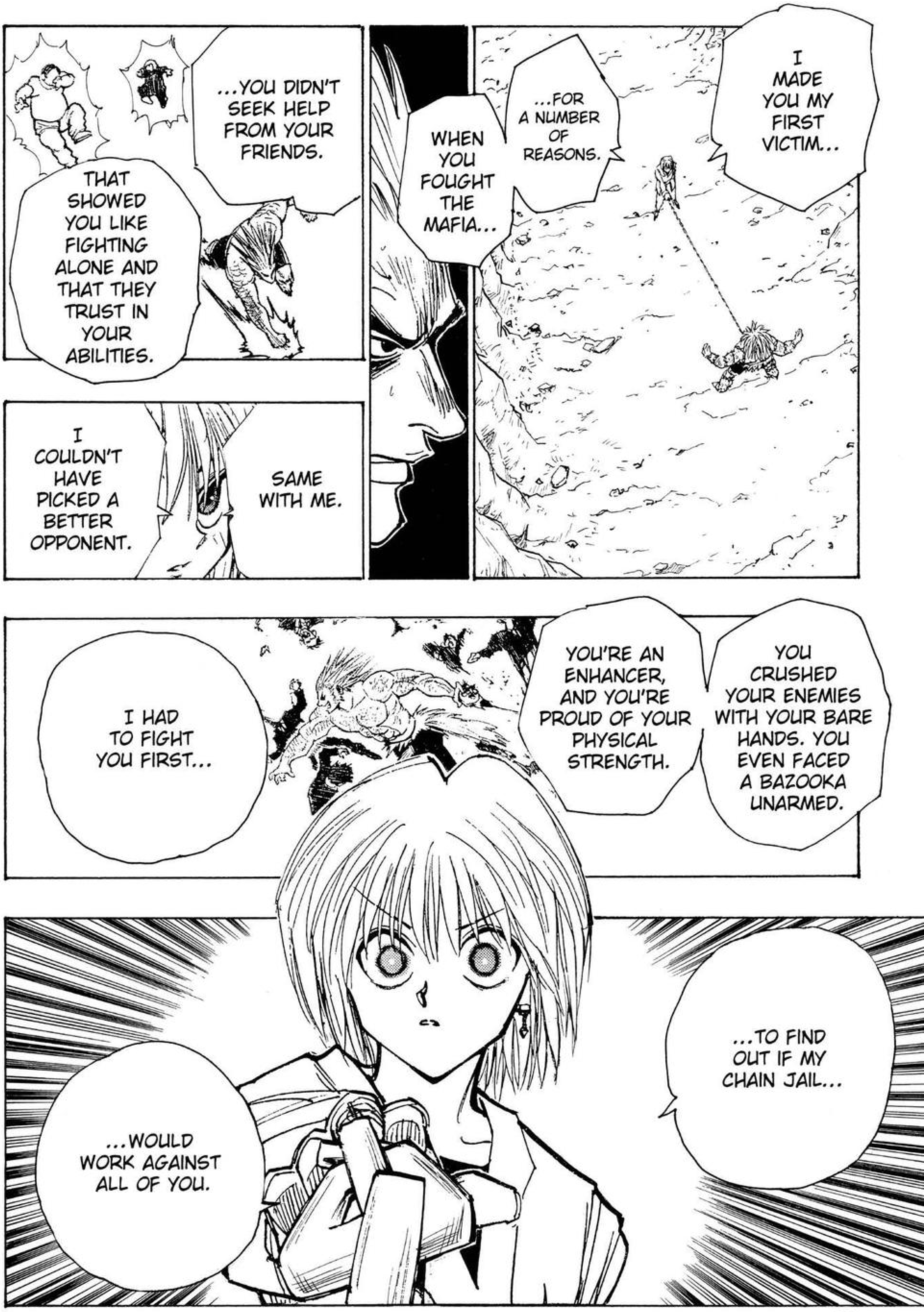


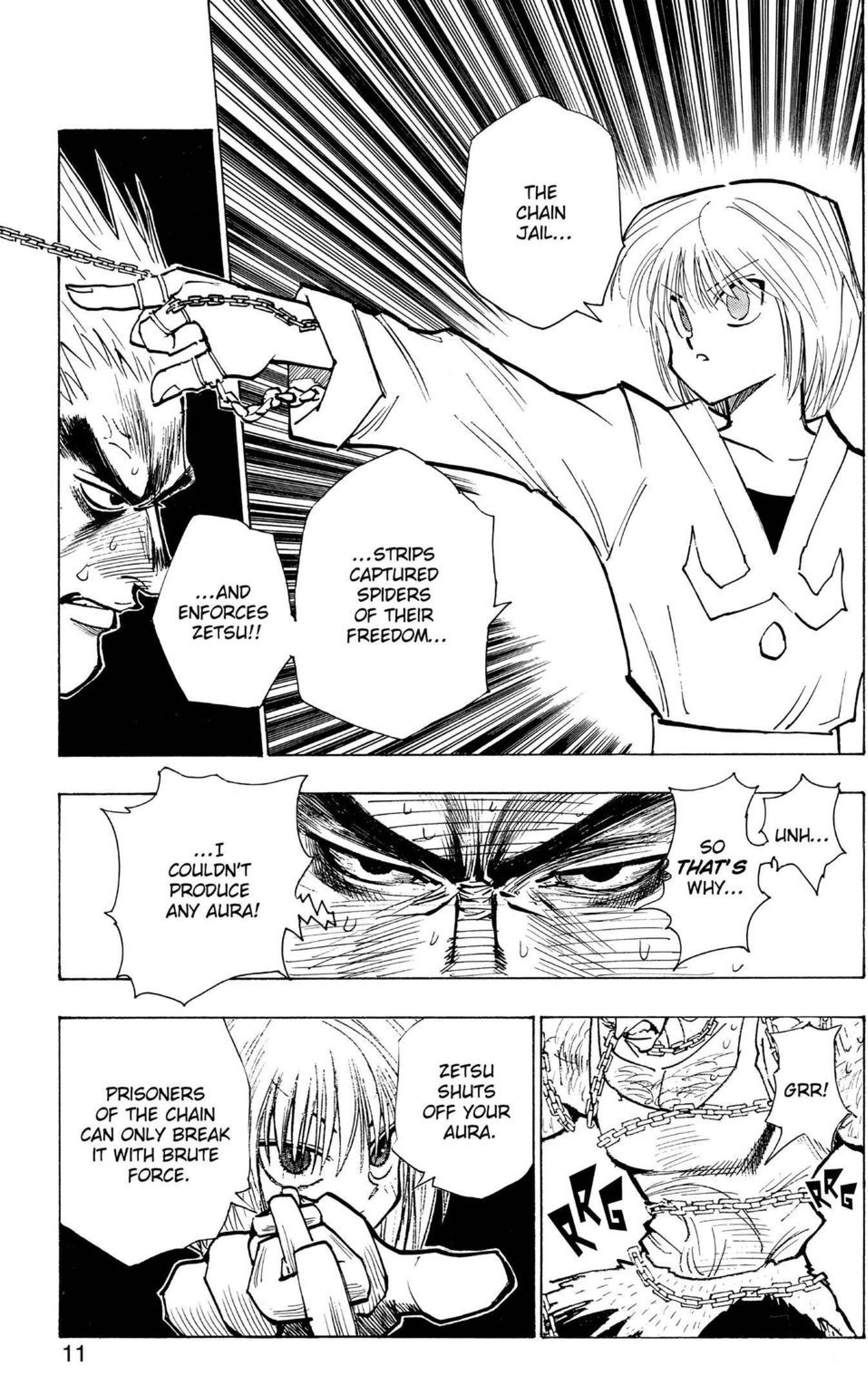

HOLY CHAIN: "HEALING THUMB"!

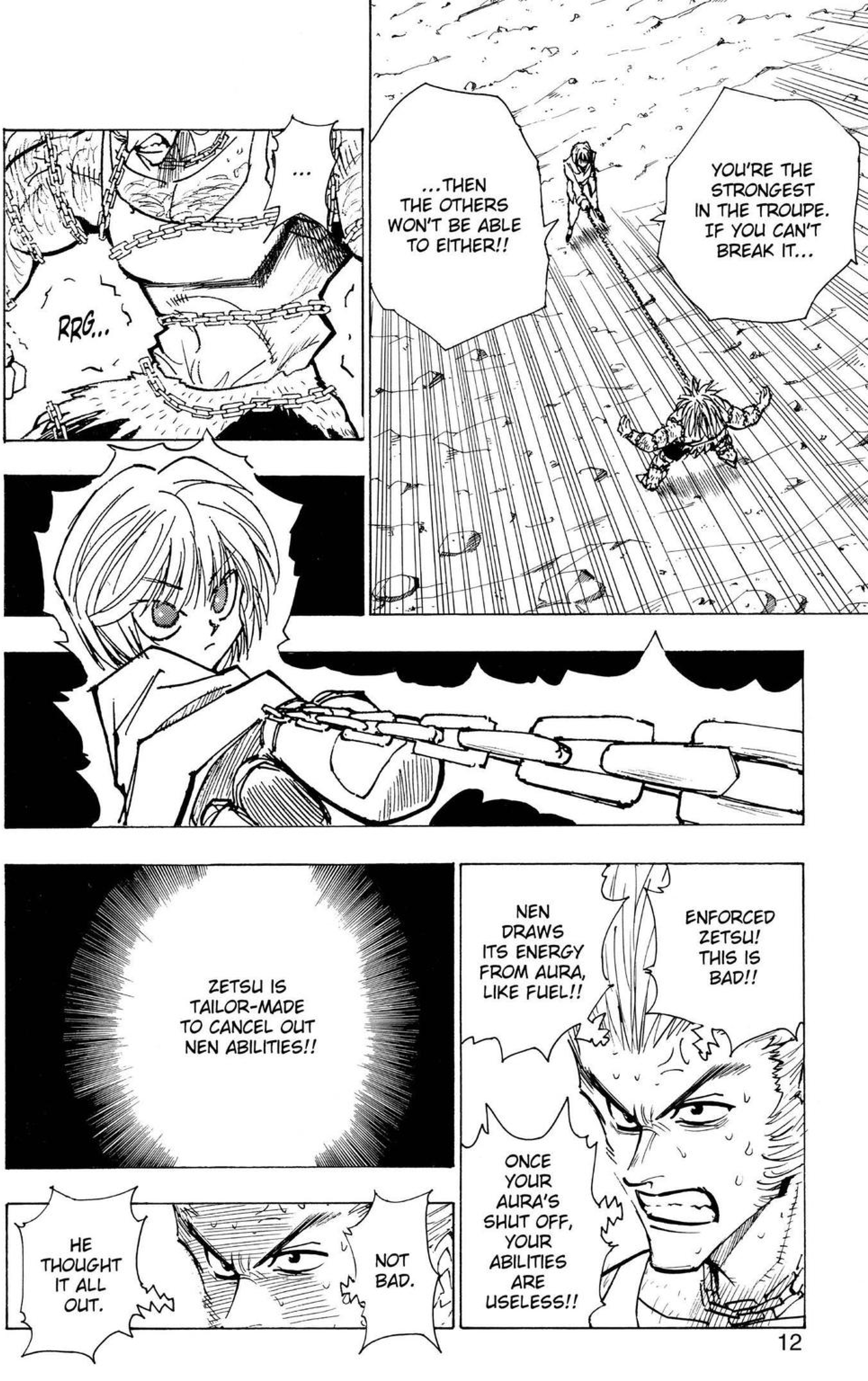
CHAPTER 84

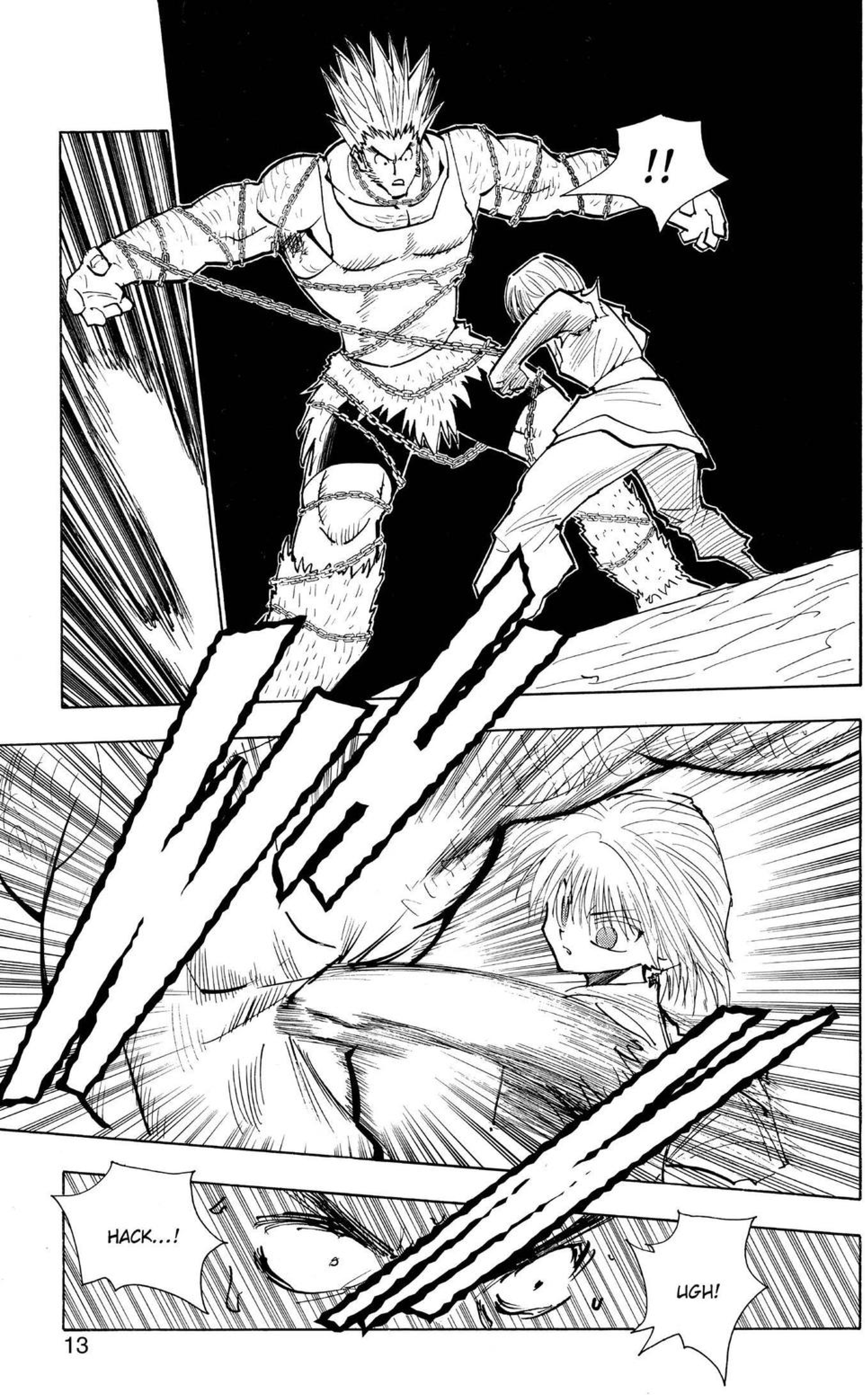
SEPTEMBER 2ND: PART 6

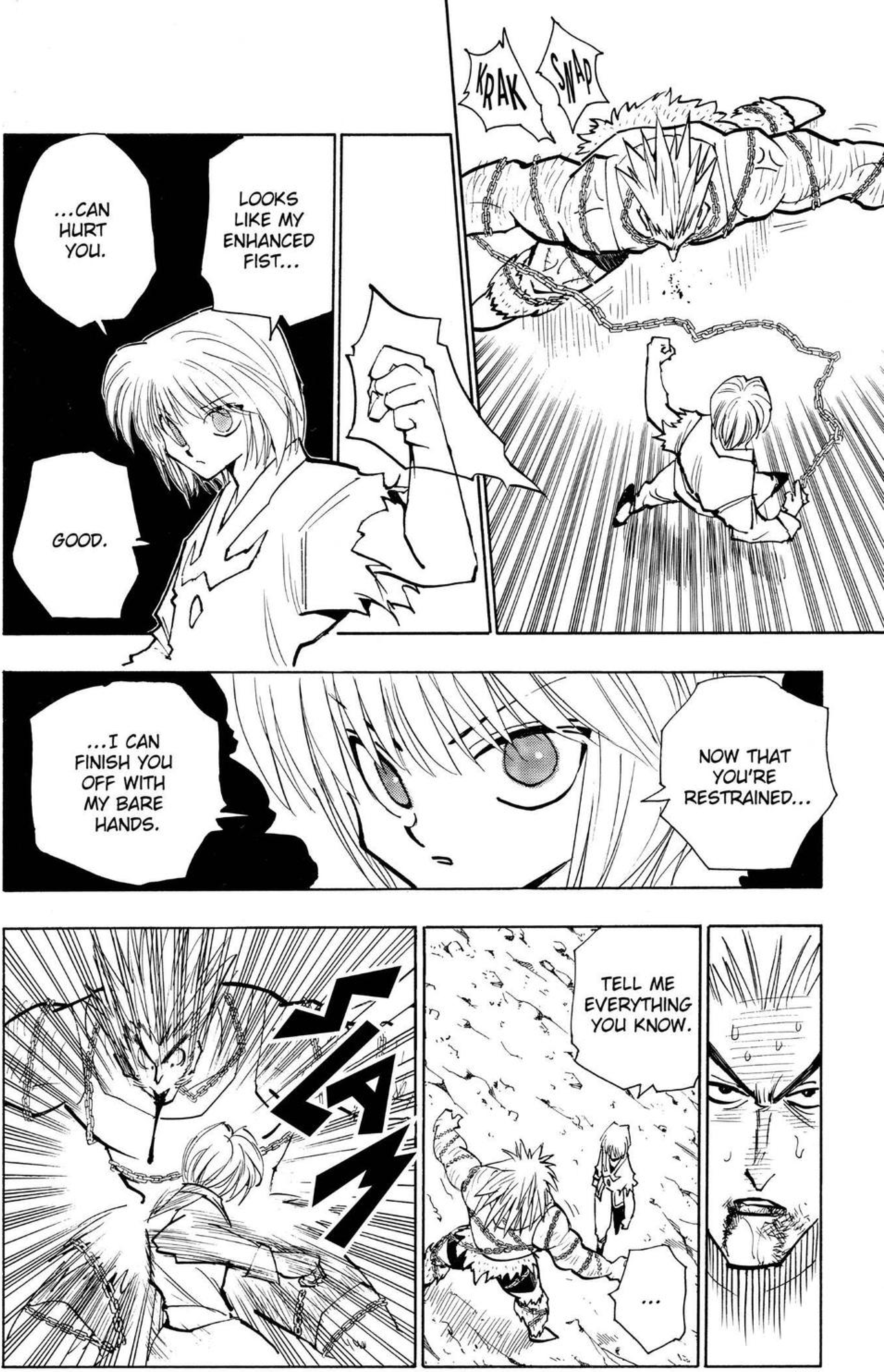

FSSH
HEALING AND RECOVERY, ENHANCED!!
?!
TA DA
FULLY HEALED.
HIS SMASHED BONES...
...WERE HEALED IN A FLASH!!

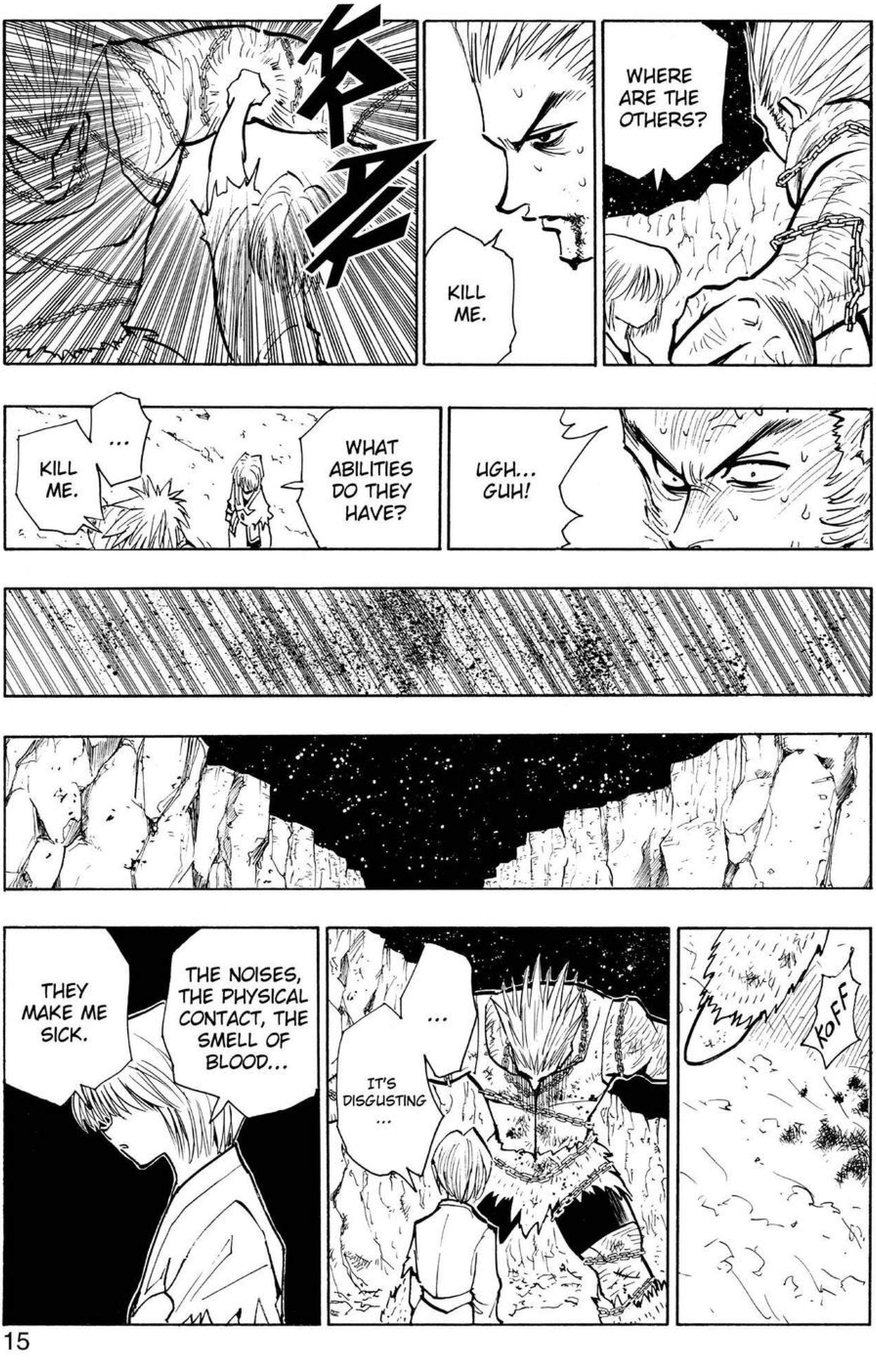

I MADE YOU MY FIRST VICTIM...
...FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS.
WHEN YOU FOUGHT THE MAFIA...
...YOU DIDN'T SEEK HELP FROM YOUR FRIENDS.
THAT SHOWED YOU LIKE FIGHTING ALONE AND THAT THEY TRUST IN YOUR ABILITIES.
SAME WITH ME.
I COULDN'T HAVE PICKED A BETTER OPPONENT.
YOU CRUSHED YOUR ENEMIES WITH YOUR BARE HANDS. YOU EVEN FACED A BAZOOKA UNARMED.
YOU'RE AN ENHANCER, AND YOU'RE PROUD OF YOUR PHYSICAL STRENGTH.
I HAD TO FIGHT YOU FIRST...
...TO FIND OUT IF MY CHAIN JAIL...
...WOULD WORK AGAINST ALL OF YOU.

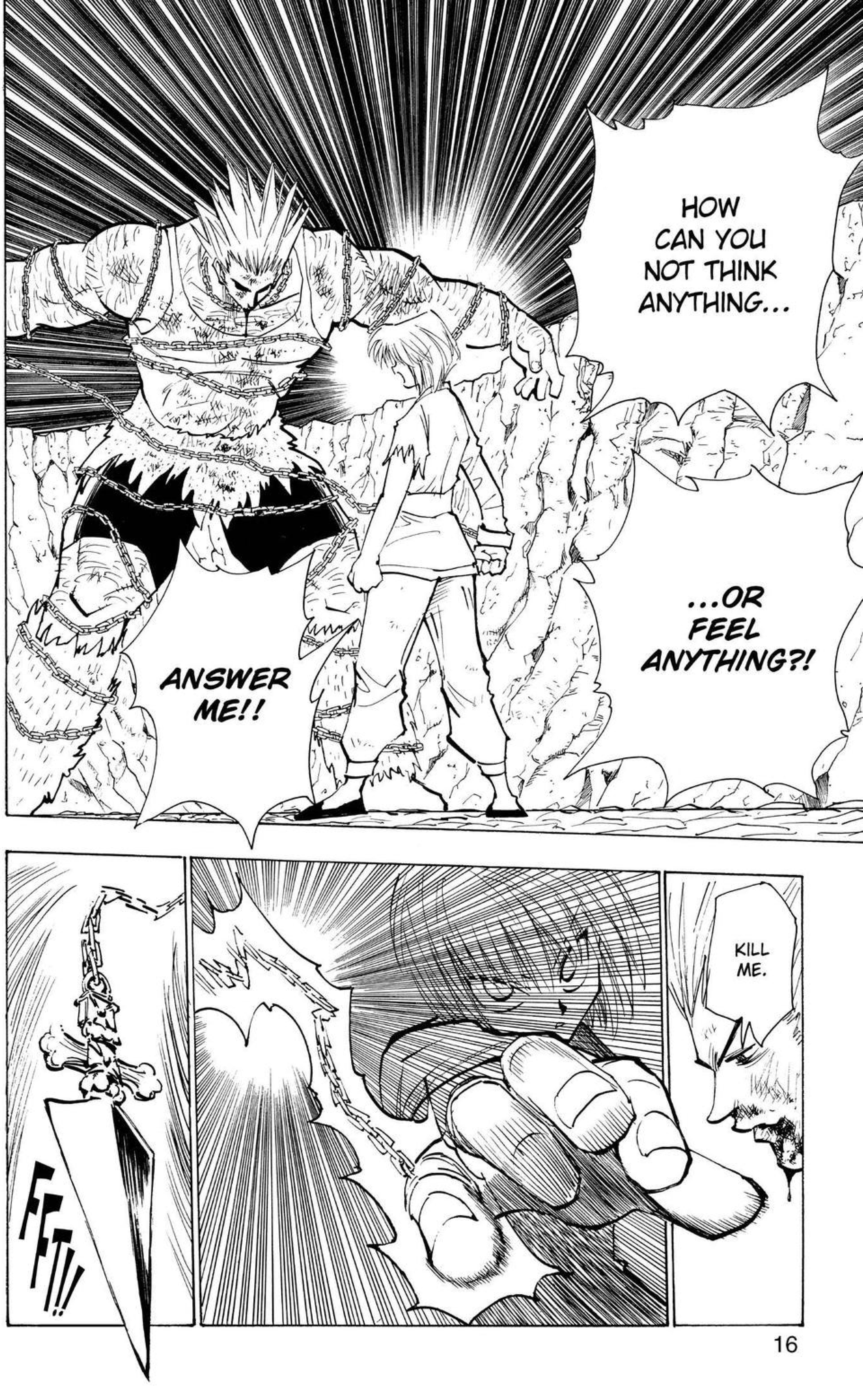

THE CHAIN JAIL…
…STRIPS CAPTURED SPIDERS OF THEIR FREEDOM…
…AND ENFORCES ZETSU!!
UNH…
SO *THAT'S* WHY…
…I COULDN'T PRODUCE ANY AURA!
GRR!
RRG
RRG
ZETSU SHUTS OFF YOUR AURA.
PRISONERS OF THE CHAIN CAN ONLY BREAK IT WITH BRUTE FORCE.

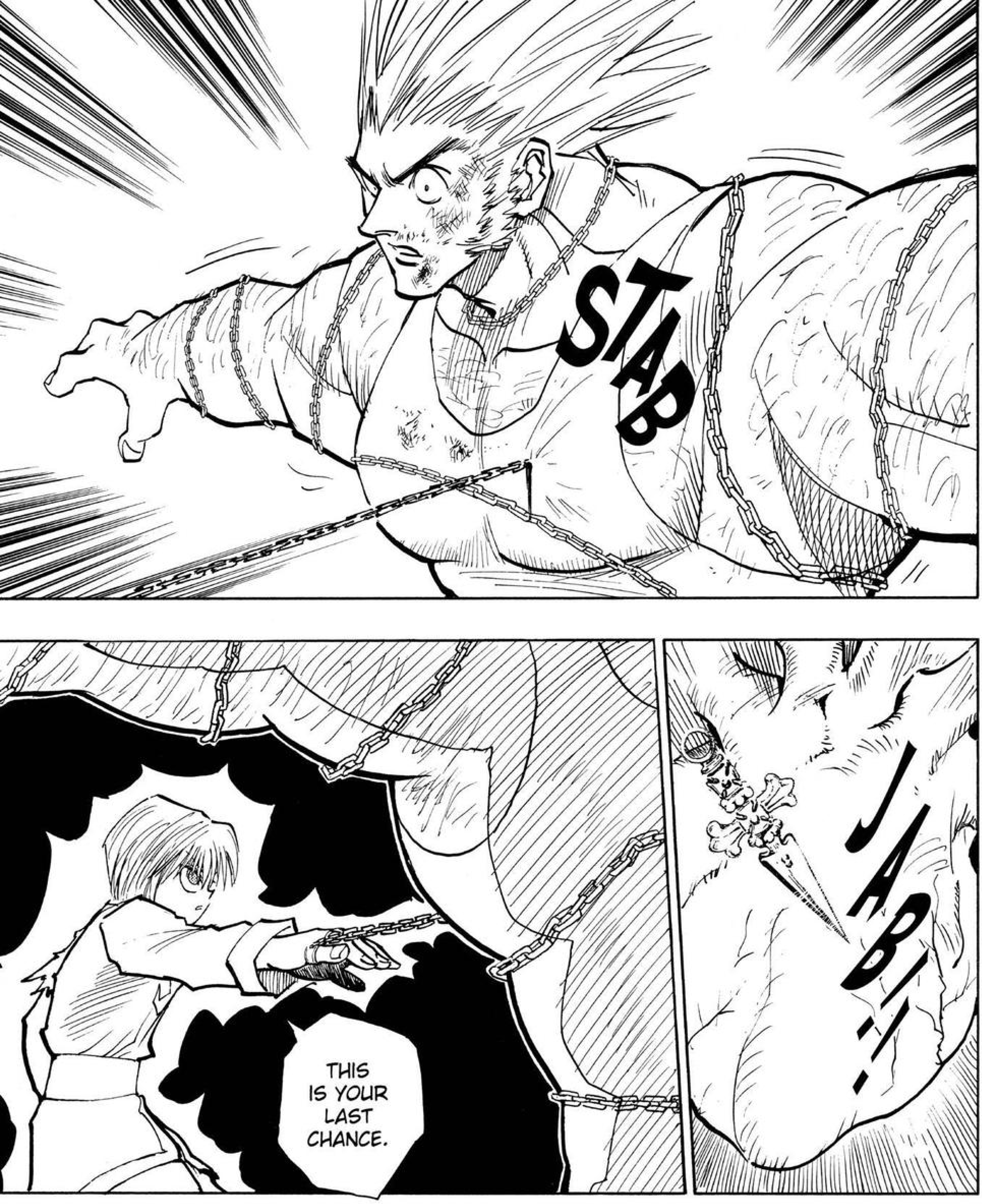

YOU'RE THE STRONGEST IN THE TROUPE. IF YOU CAN'T BREAK IT...
...THEN THE OTHERS WON'T BE ABLE TO EITHER!!
...
RRG...
ENFORCED ZETSU! THIS IS BAD!!
NEN DRAWS ITS ENERGY FROM AURA, LIKE FUEL!!
ONCE YOUR AURA'S SHUT OFF, YOUR ABILITIES ARE USELESS!!
ZETSU IS TAILOR-MADE TO CANCEL OUT NEN ABILITIES!!
NOT BAD.
HE THOUGHT IT ALL OUT.

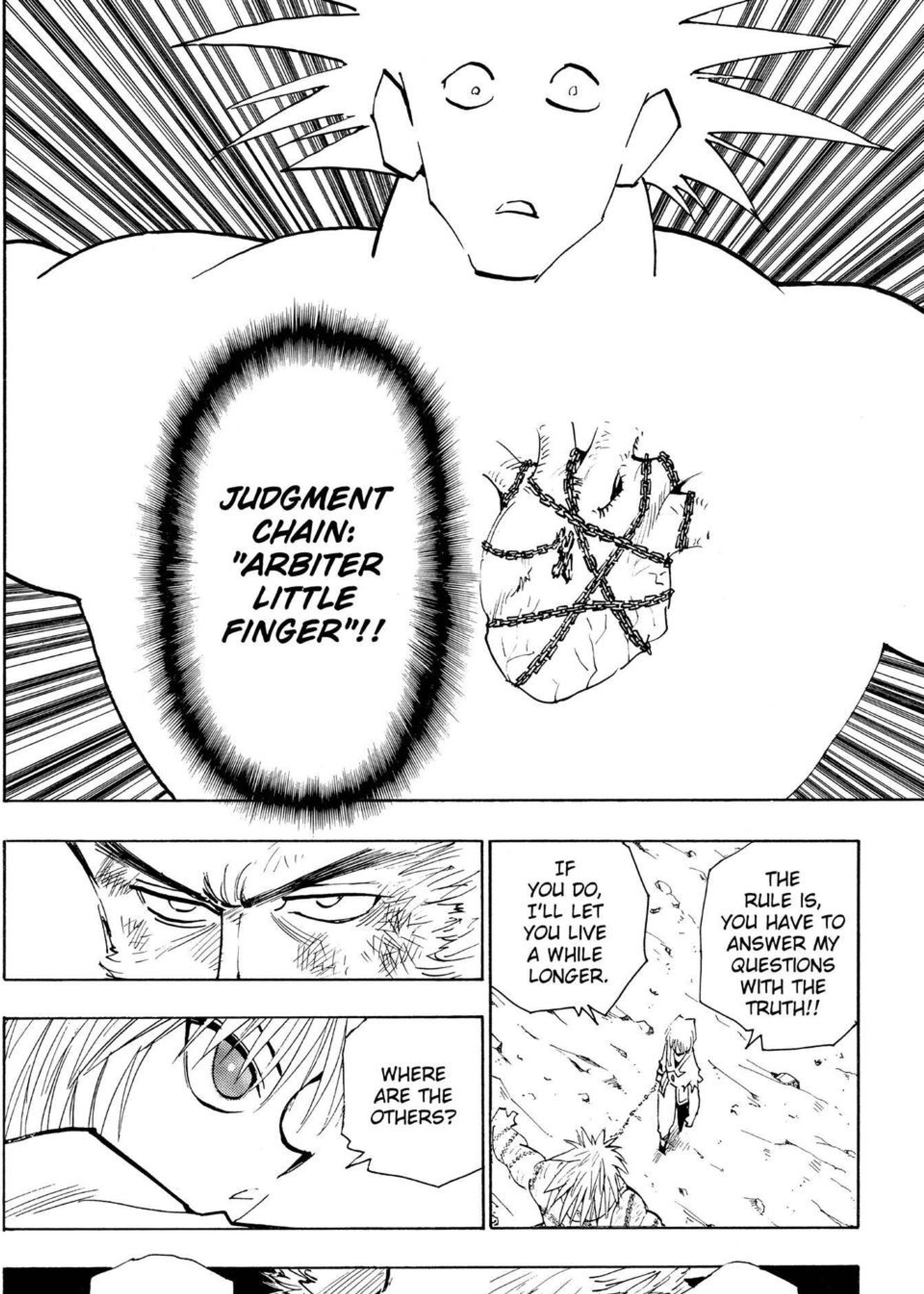

!!
HACK...!
UGH!

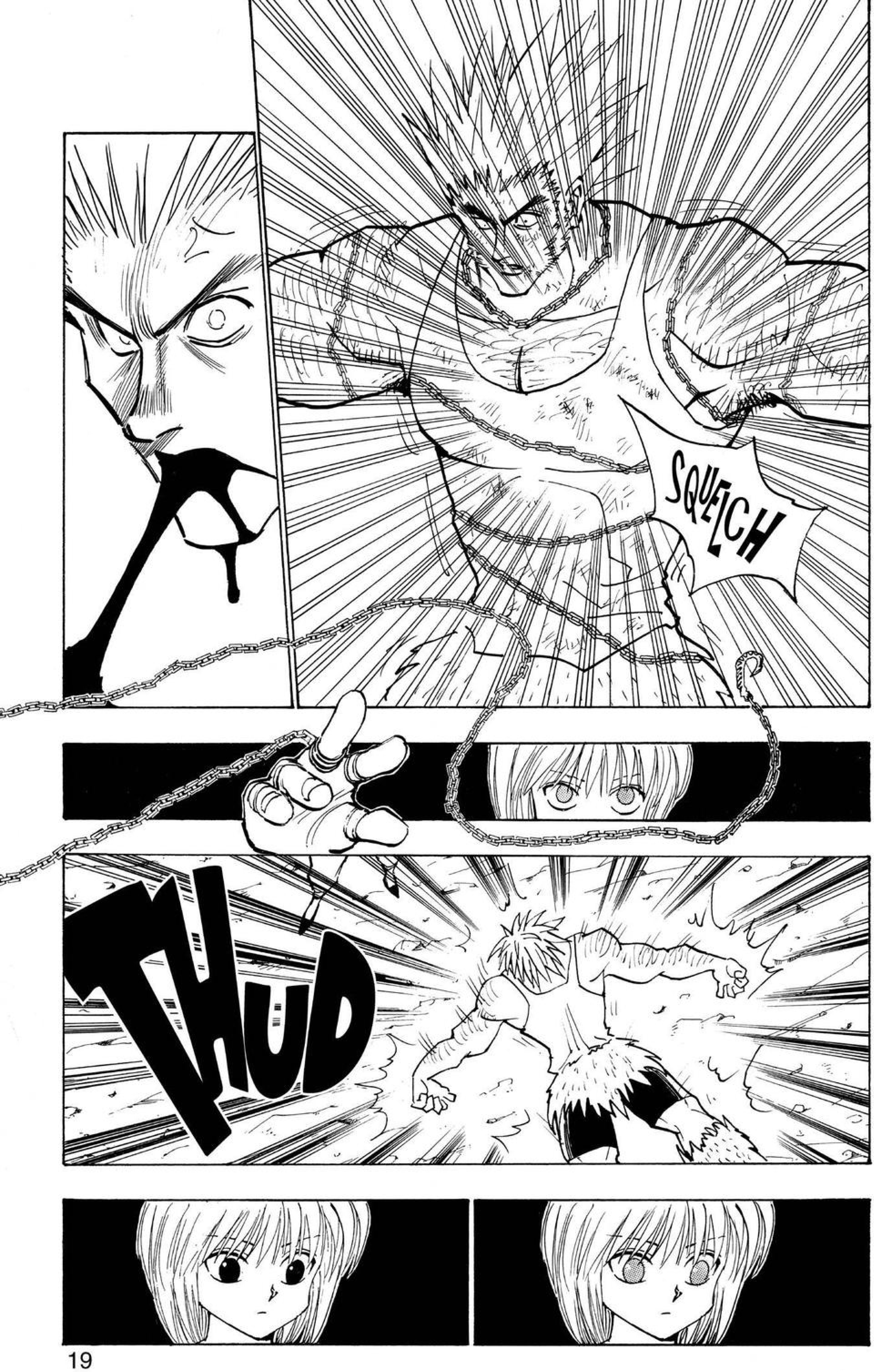

KRAK
SNAP
LOOKS LIKE MY ENHANCED FIST…
…CAN HURT YOU.
GOOD.
NOW THAT YOU'RE RESTRAINED…
…I CAN FINISH YOU OFF WITH MY BARE HANDS.
TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU KNOW.
…
SLAM

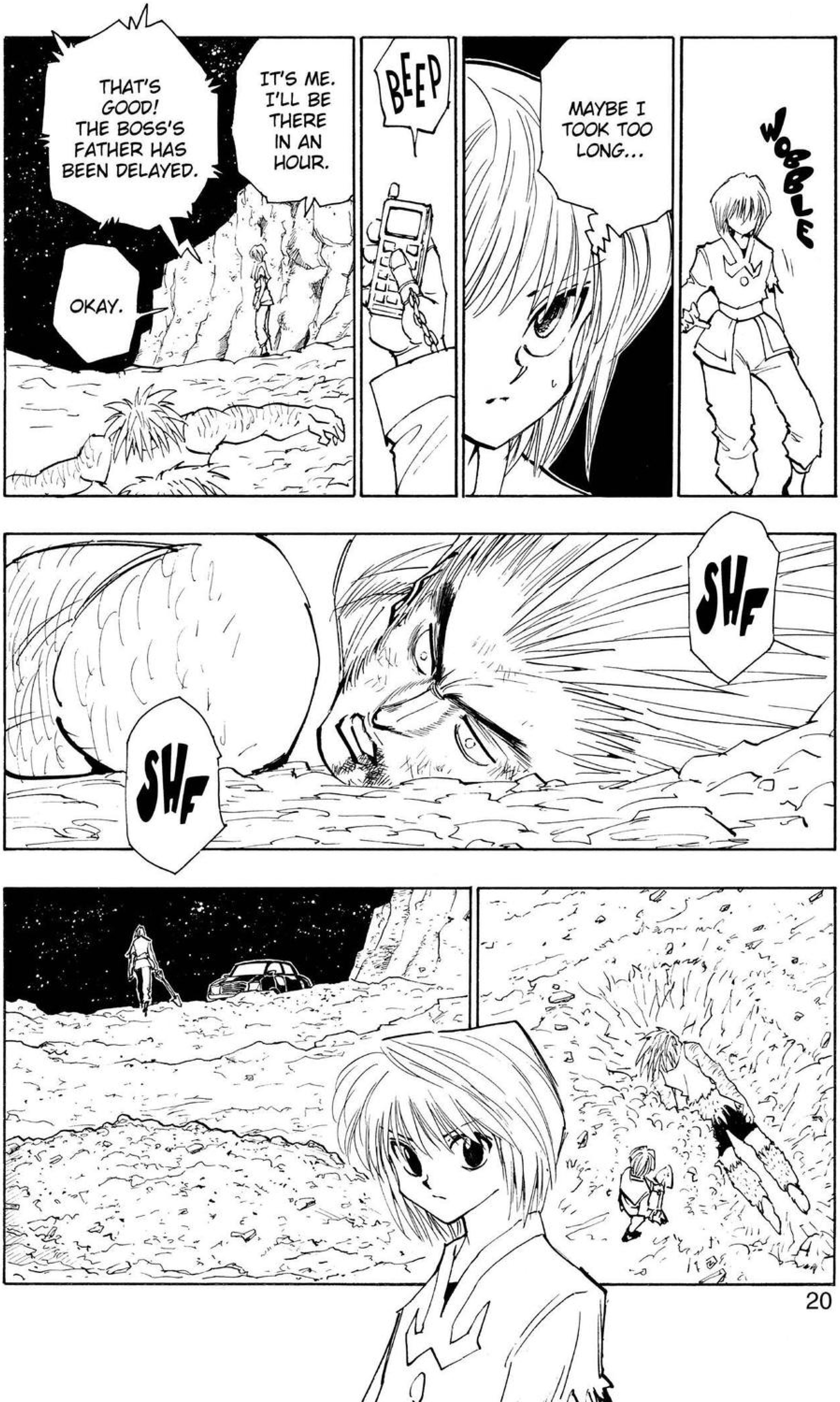

WHERE ARE THE OTHERS?
KILL ME.
KRAK
UGH... GUH!
WHAT ABILITIES DO THEY HAVE?
...
KILL ME.
KOFF
...
IT'S DISGUSTING ...
THE NOISES, THE PHYSICAL CONTACT, THE SMELL OF BLOOD...
THEY MAKE ME SICK.


HOW CAN YOU NOT THINK ANYTHING...
...OR FEEL ANYTHING?!
ANSWER ME!!
KILL ME.
FFT!!

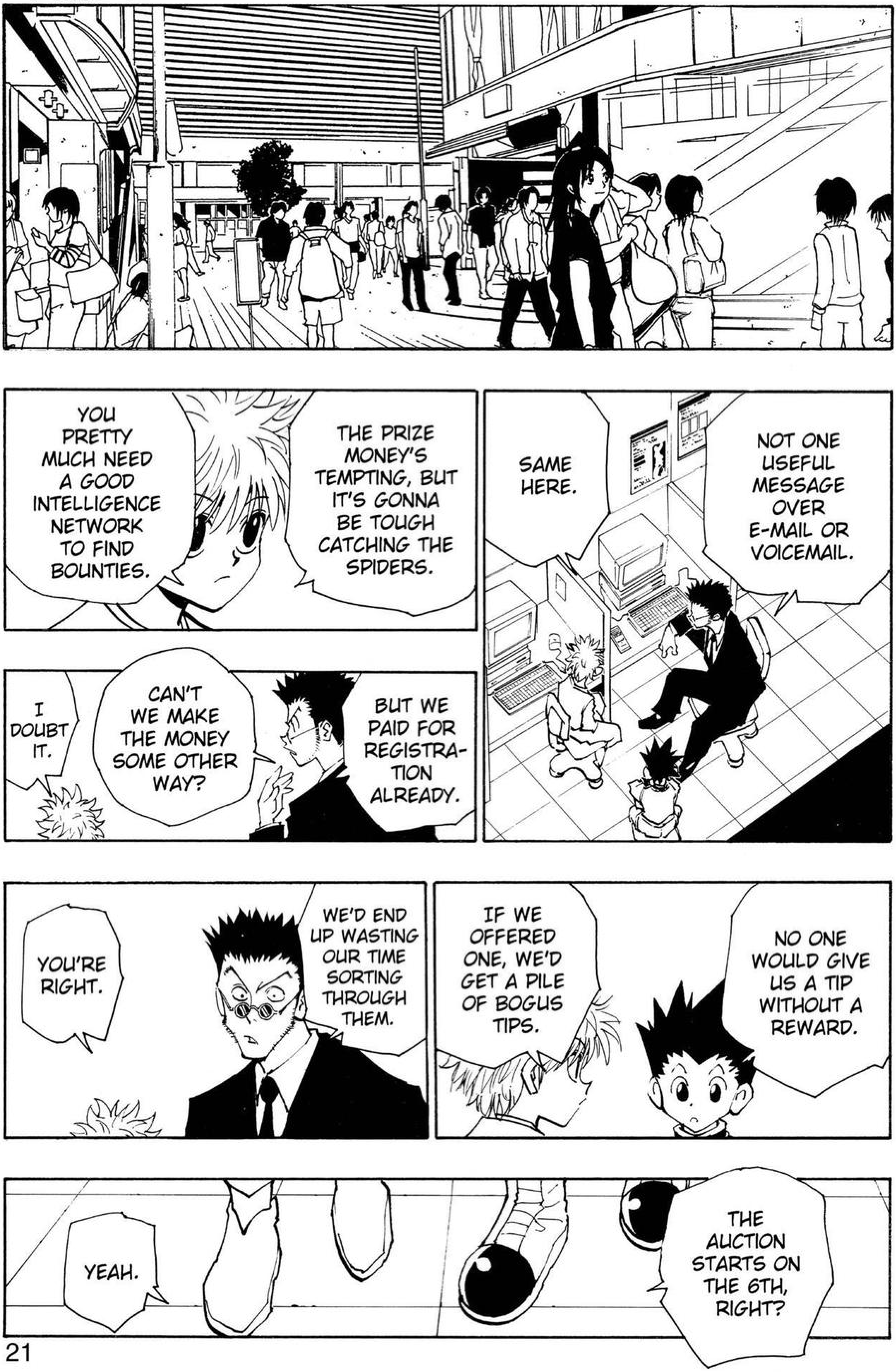

STAB
JAB!!!
THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE.
I'VE STABBED YOUR HEART WITH THE STAKE OF RETRIBUTION.
I'M GOING TO SET A RULE. BREAKING IT WILL ACTIVATE THE CHAIN AND CRUSH YOUR HEART!!

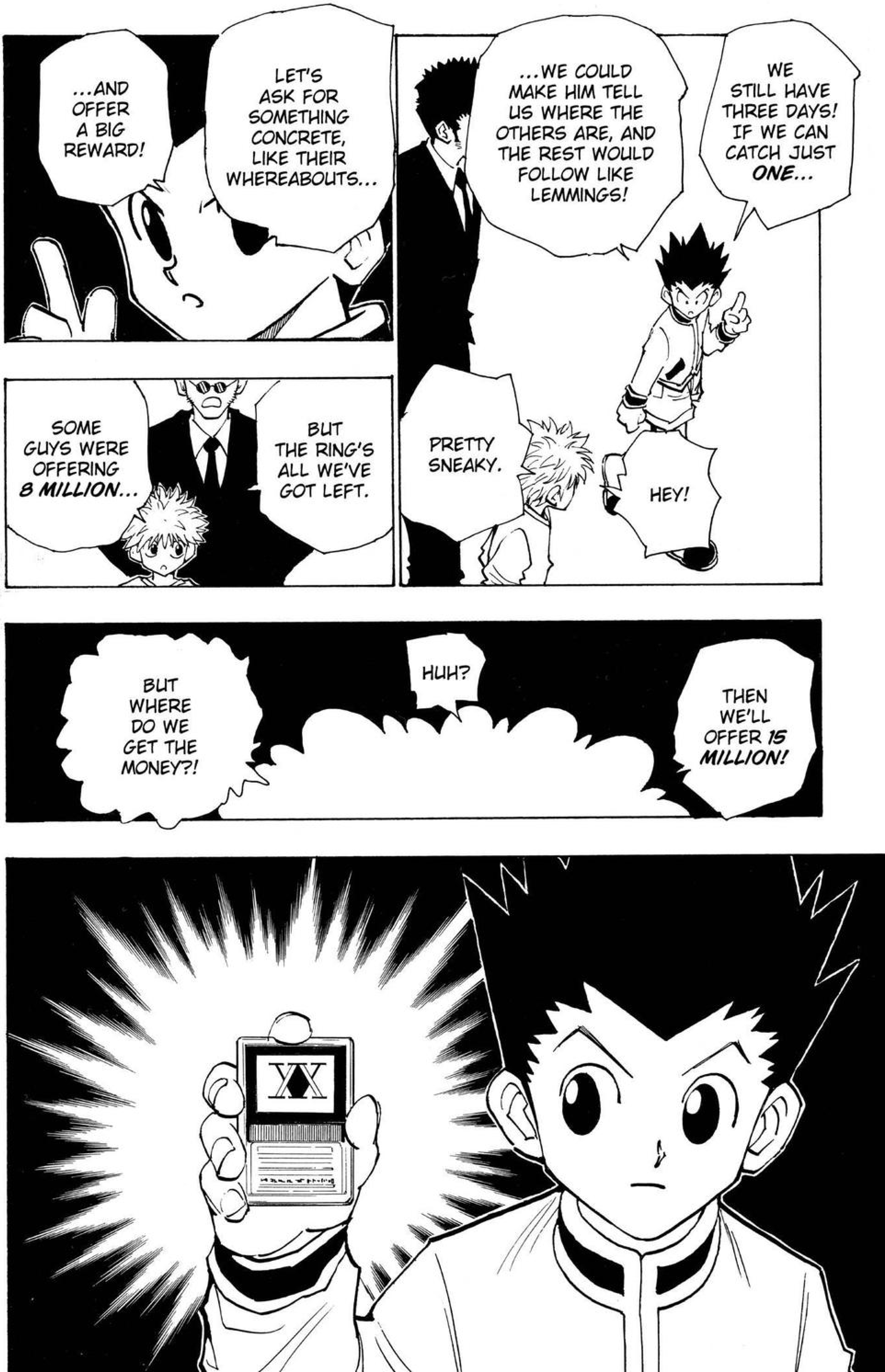

JUDGMENT CHAIN: "ARBITER LITTLE FINGER"!!
THE RULE IS, YOU HAVE TO ANSWER MY QUESTIONS WITH THE TRUTH!!
IF YOU DO, I'LL LET YOU LIVE A WHILE LONGER.
WHERE ARE THE OTHERS?
GET LOST.
FOOL.


SQUELCH
THUD

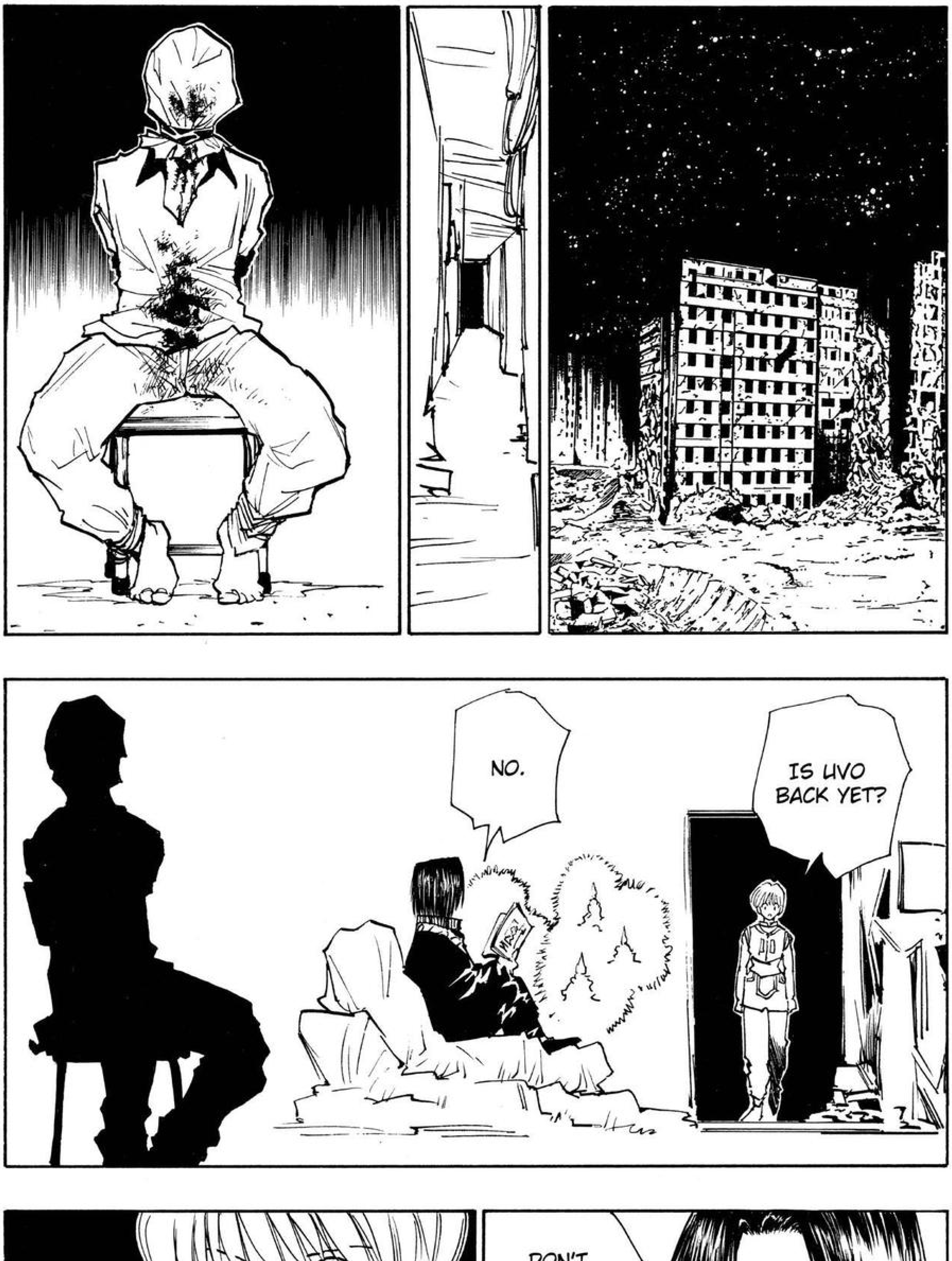

WOBBLE
MAYBE I TOOK TOO LONG...
BEEP
IT'S ME. I'LL BE THERE IN AN HOUR.
THAT'S GOOD! THE BOSS'S FATHER HAS BEEN DELAYED.
OKAY.
SHF
SHF

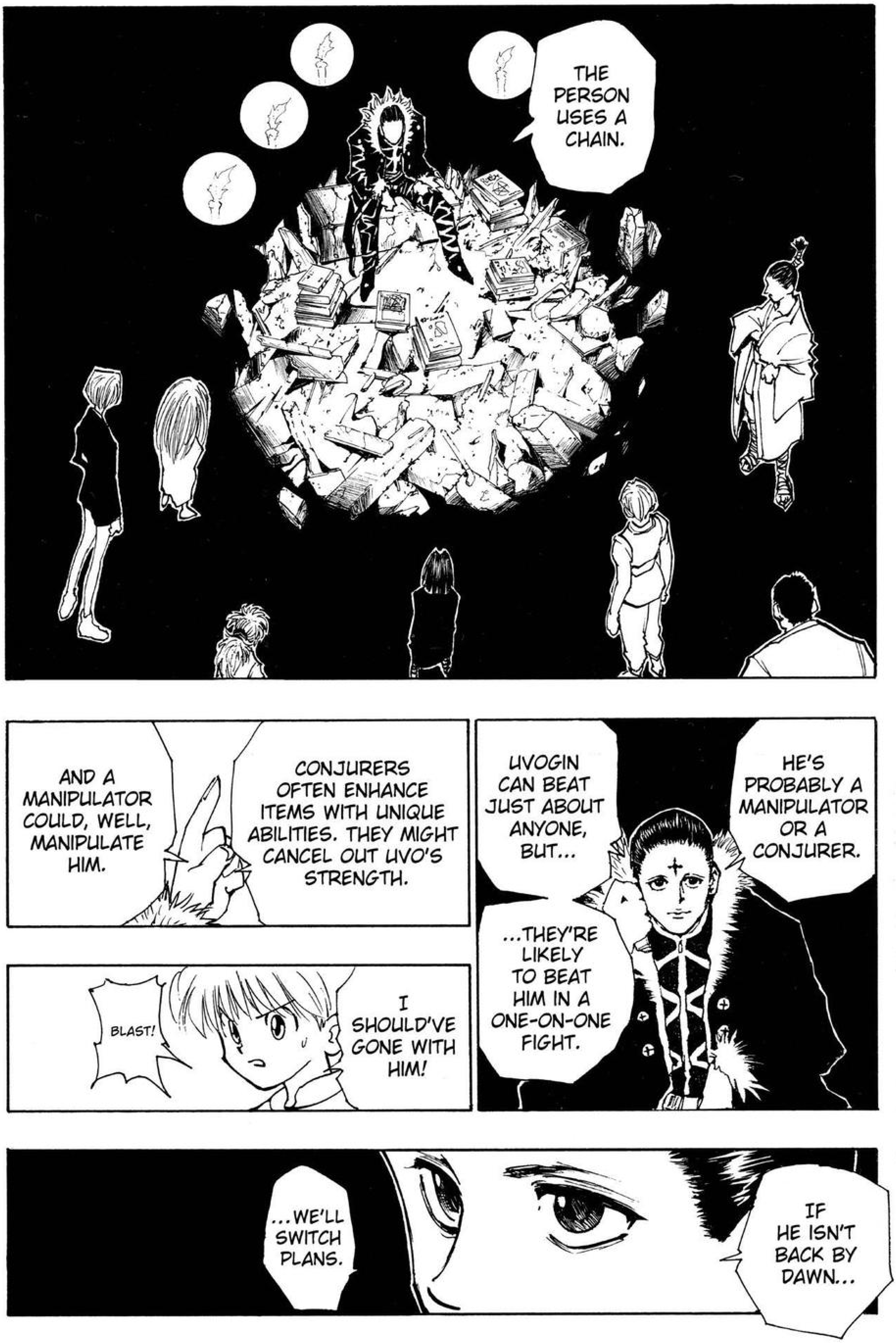
READ THIS WAY


NOT ONE USEFUL MESSAGE OVER E-MAIL OR VOICEMAIL.
SAME HERE.
THE PRIZE MONEY'S TEMPTING, BUT IT'S GONNA BE TOUGH CATCHING THE SPIDERS.
YOU PRETTY MUCH NEED A GOOD INTELLIGENCE NETWORK TO FIND BOUNTIES.
BUT WE PAID FOR REGISTRATION ALREADY.
CAN'T WE MAKE THE MONEY SOME OTHER WAY?
I DOUBT IT.
NO ONE WOULD GIVE US A TIP WITHOUT A REWARD.
IF WE OFFERED ONE, WE'D GET A PILE OF BOGUS TIPS.
WE'D END UP WASTING OUR TIME SORTING THROUGH THEM.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
THE AUCTION STARTS ON THE 6TH, RIGHT?
YEAH.

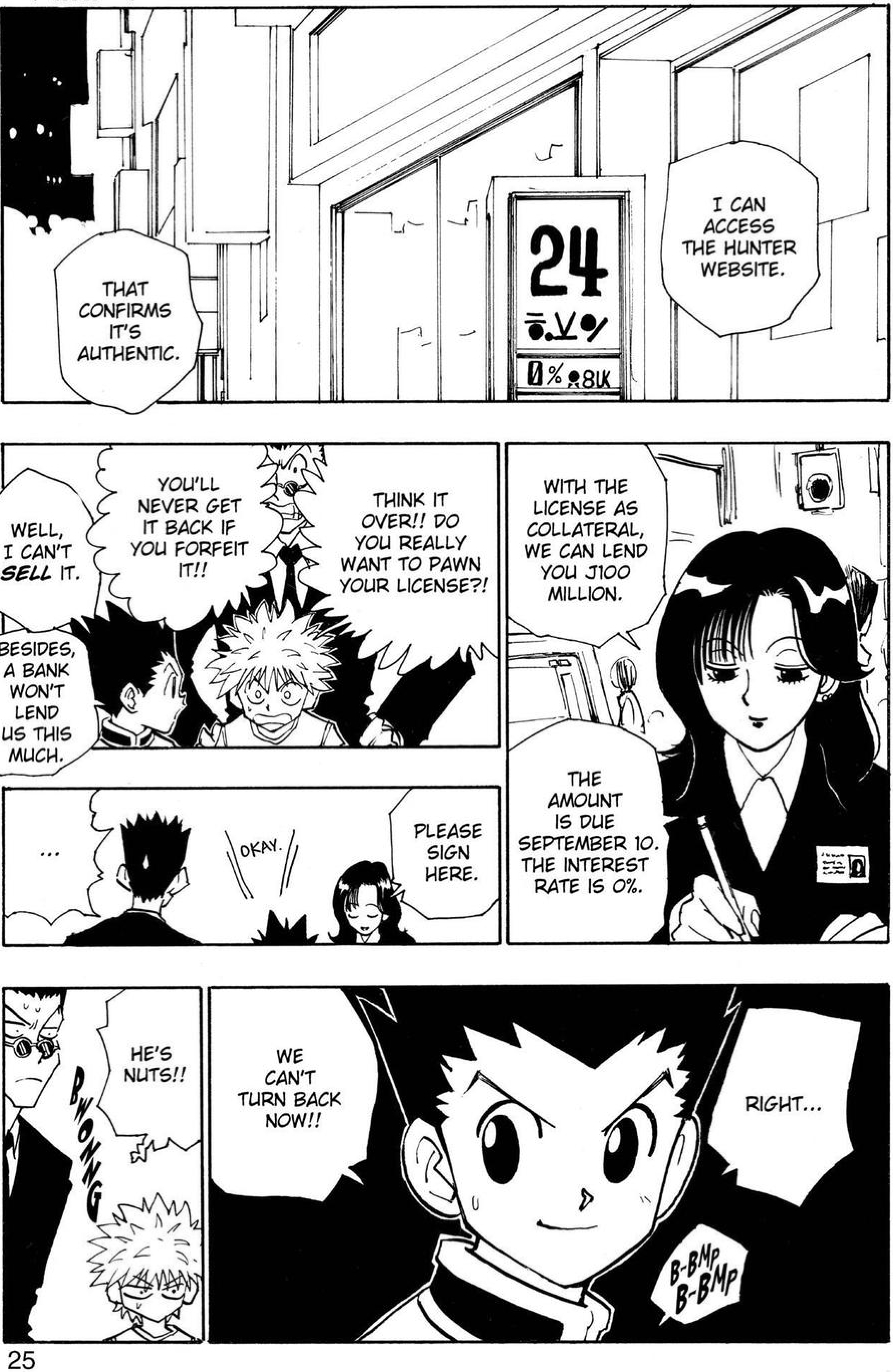

WE STILL HAVE THREE DAYS! IF WE CAN CATCH JUST **ONE...**
...WE COULD MAKE HIM TELL US WHERE THE OTHERS ARE, AND THE REST WOULD FOLLOW LIKE LEMMINGS!
HEY!
PRETTY SNEAKY.
LET'S ASK FOR SOMETHING CONCRETE, LIKE THEIR WHEREABOUTS...
...AND OFFER A BIG REWARD!
BUT THE RING'S ALL WE'VE GOT LEFT.
SOME GUYS WERE OFFERING ***8 MILLION...***
THEN WE'LL OFFER ***15 MILLION!***
HUH?
BUT WHERE DO WE GET THE MONEY?!

READ THIS WAY


IS UVO BACK YET?
NO.
DON'T WORRY. HE NOT DIE SO EASY.
Trevor Brown

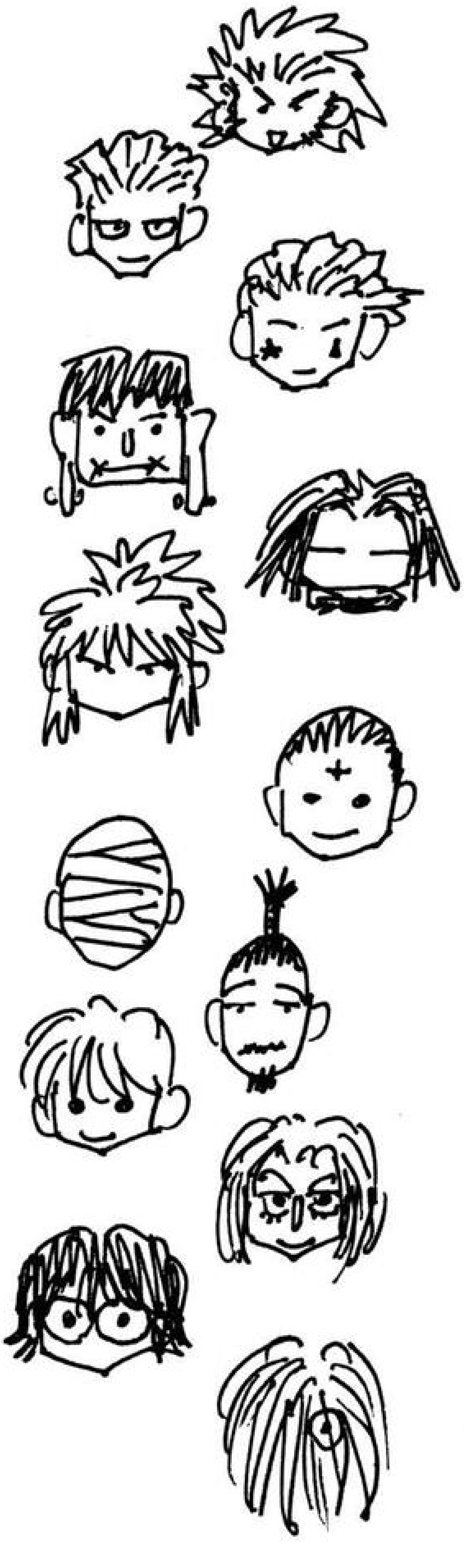

THE PERSON USES A CHAIN.
HE'S PROBABLY A MANIPULATOR OR A CONJURER.
UVOGIN CAN BEAT JUST ABOUT ANYONE, BUT...
...THEY'RE LIKELY TO BEAT HIM IN A ONE-ON-ONE FIGHT.
CONJURERS OFTEN ENHANCE ITEMS WITH UNIQUE ABILITIES. THEY MIGHT CANCEL OUT UVO'S STRENGTH.
AND A MANIPULATOR COULD, WELL, MANIPULATE HIM.
I SHOULD'VE GONE WITH HIM!
BLAST!
IF HE ISN'T BACK BY DAWN...
...WE'LL SWITCH PLANS.

READ THIS WAY

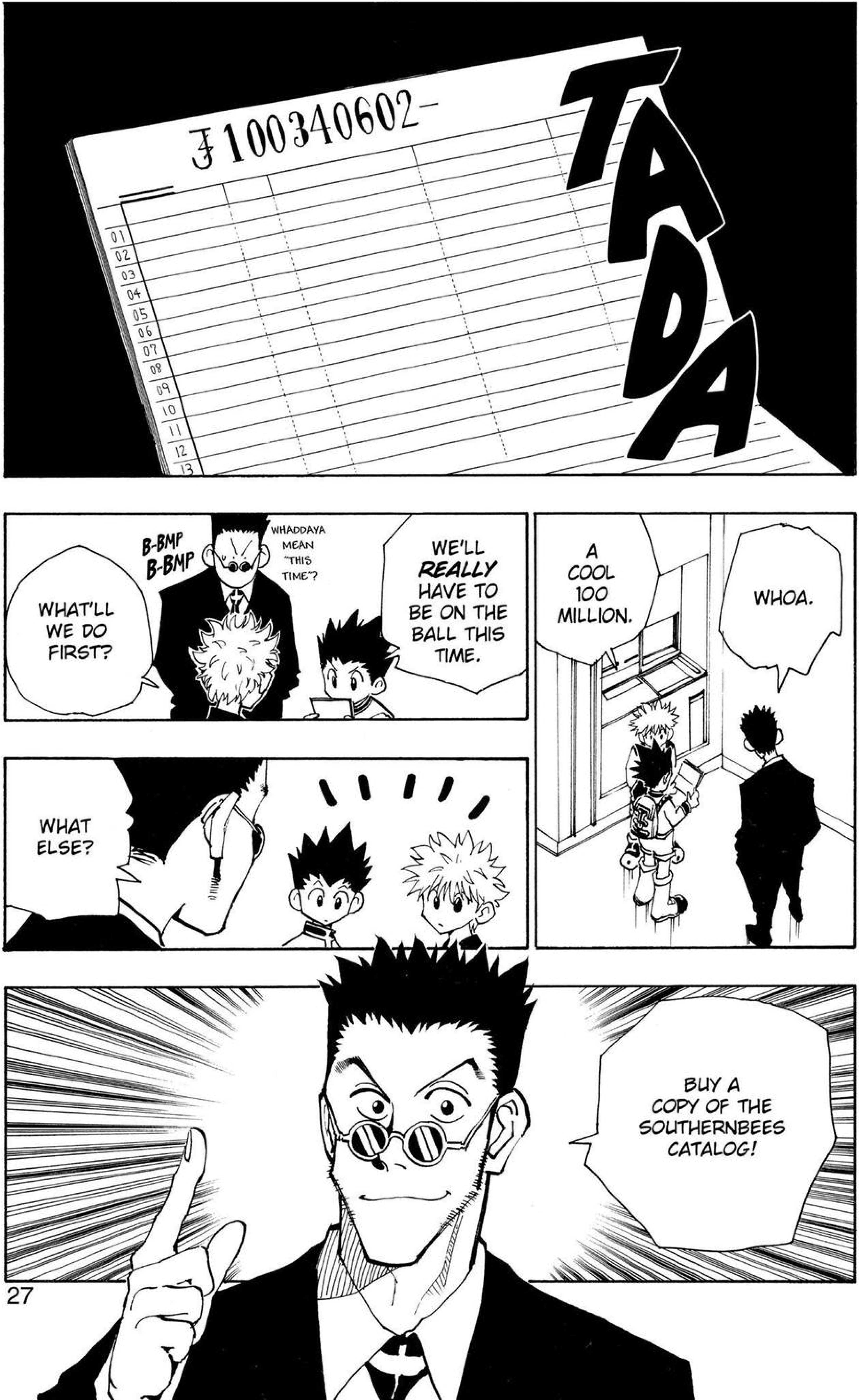

I CAN ACCESS THE HUNTER WEBSITE.
24
0% 81K
THAT CONFIRMS IT'S AUTHENTIC.
WITH THE LICENSE AS COLLATERAL, WE CAN LEND YOU J100 MILLION.
THE AMOUNT IS DUE SEPTEMBER 10. THE INTEREST RATE IS 0%.
THINK IT OVER!! DO YOU REALLY WANT TO PAWN YOUR LICENSE?!
YOU'LL NEVER GET IT BACK IF YOU FORFEIT IT!!
WELL, I CAN'T **SELL** IT.
BESIDES, A BANK WON'T LEND US THIS MUCH.
PLEASE SIGN HERE.
OKAY.
...
RIGHT...
WE CAN'T TURN BACK NOW!!
B-BMP B-BMP
HE'S NUTS!!
BWONG

TROUPE ARM-WRESTLING RANKINGS

1 UVOGIN
2 PHINKS
3 HISOKA
4 FRANKLIN
5 FEITAN
6 MACHI
7 CHROLLO
8 BONOLENOV
9 NOBUNAGA
10 SHALNARK
11 PAKUNODA
12 SHIZUKU
13 KORTOPI

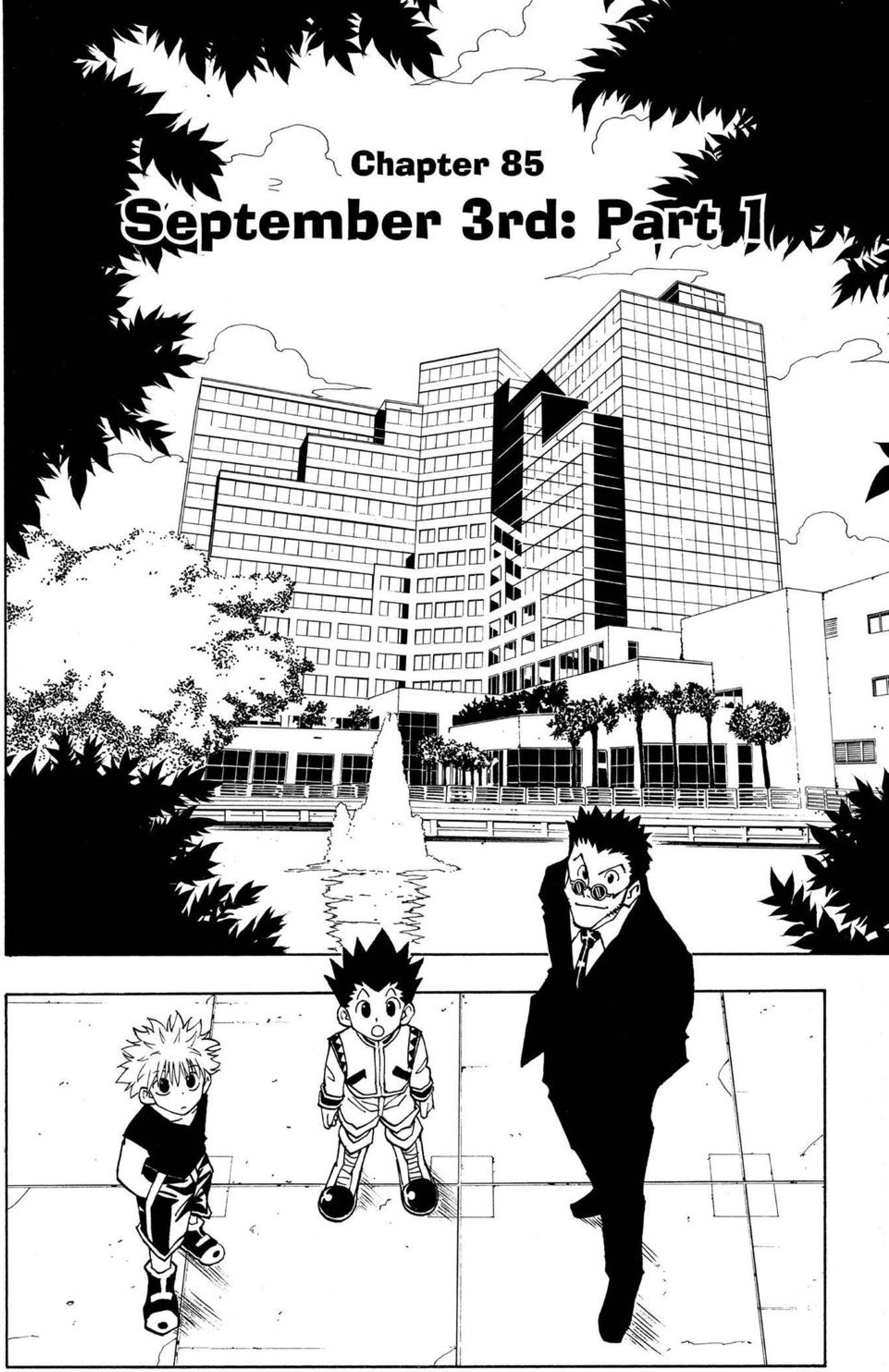


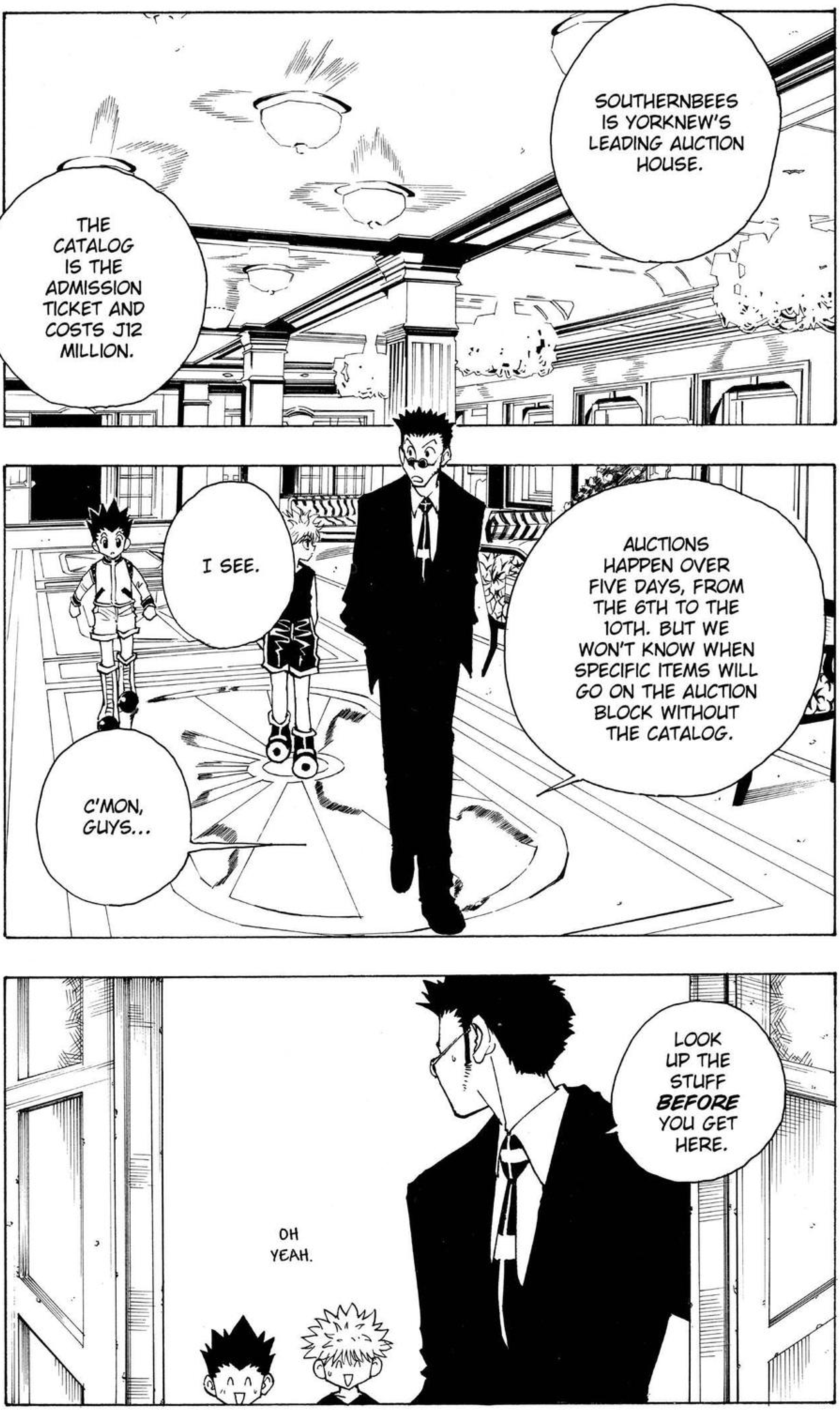
Chapter 85 September 3rd: Part 1

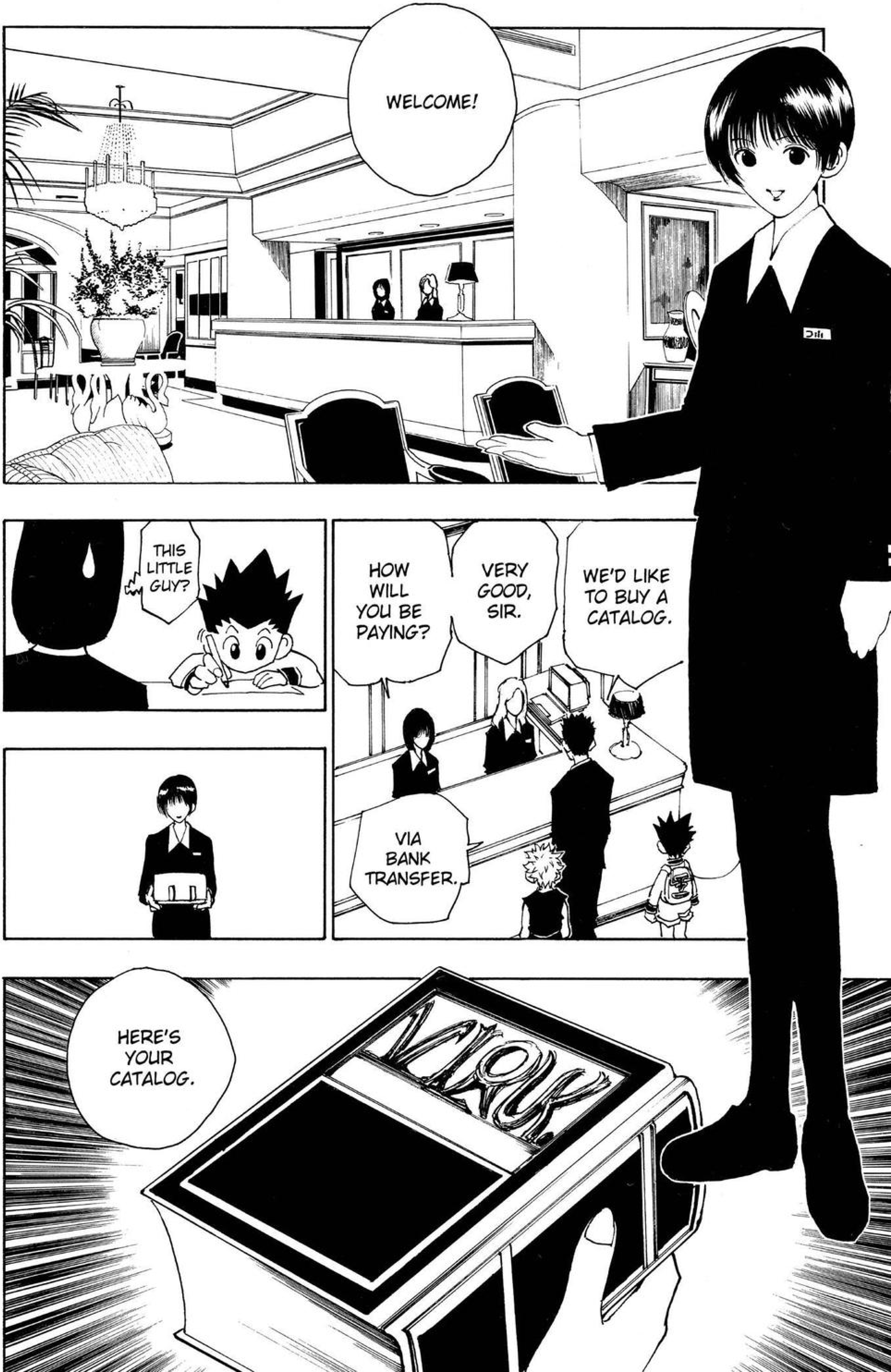

J100340602-
01
02
03
04
05
06
07
08
09
10
11
12
13
TADA
WHOA.
A COOL 100 MILLION.
WE'LL *REALLY* HAVE TO BE ON THE BALL THIS TIME.
WHADDAYA MEAN "THIS TIME"?
B-BMP B-BMP
WHAT'LL WE DO FIRST?
WHAT ELSE?
BUY A COPY OF THE SOUTHERNBEES CATALOG!

Chapter 85

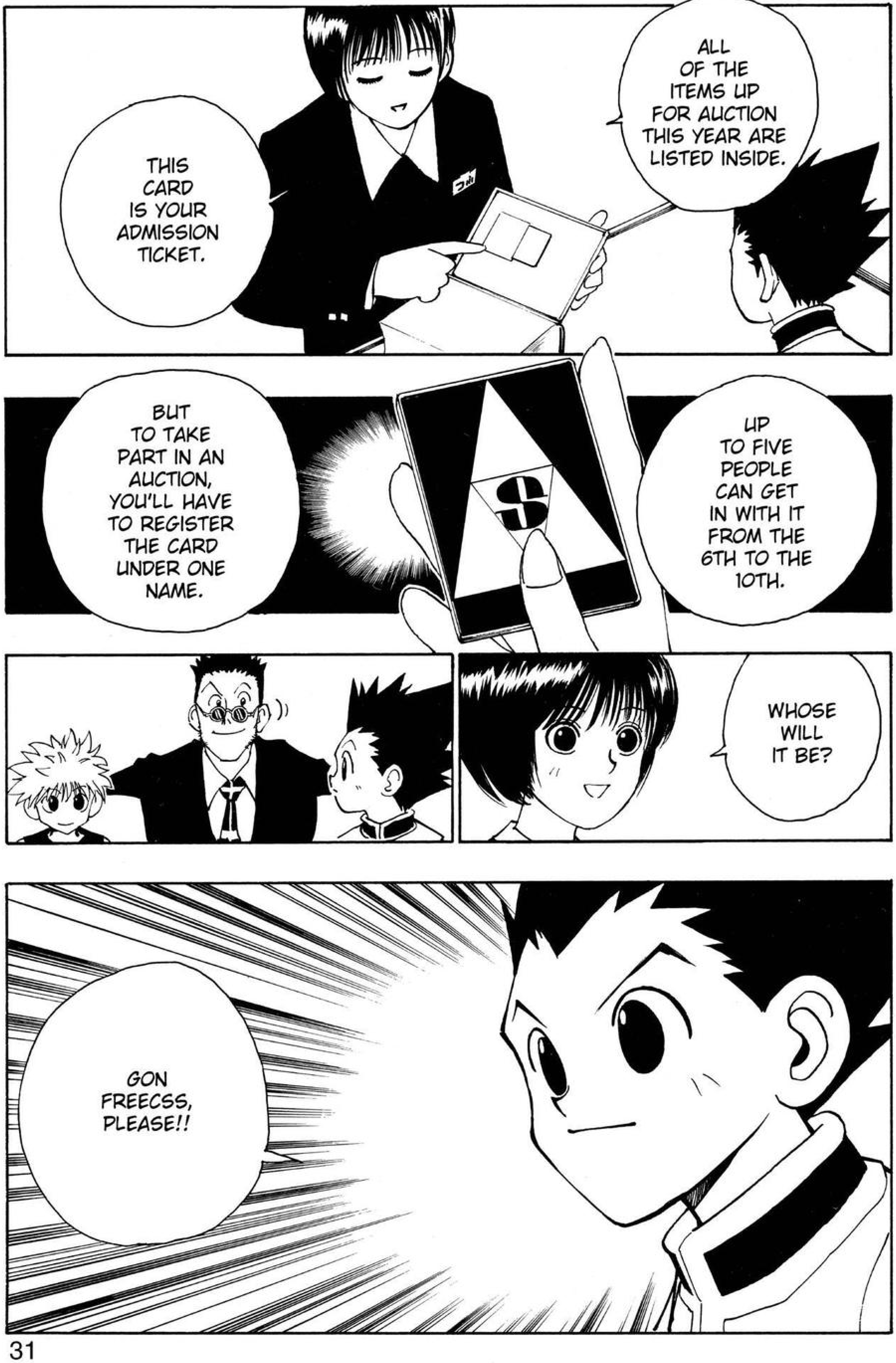
September 3rd: Part 1

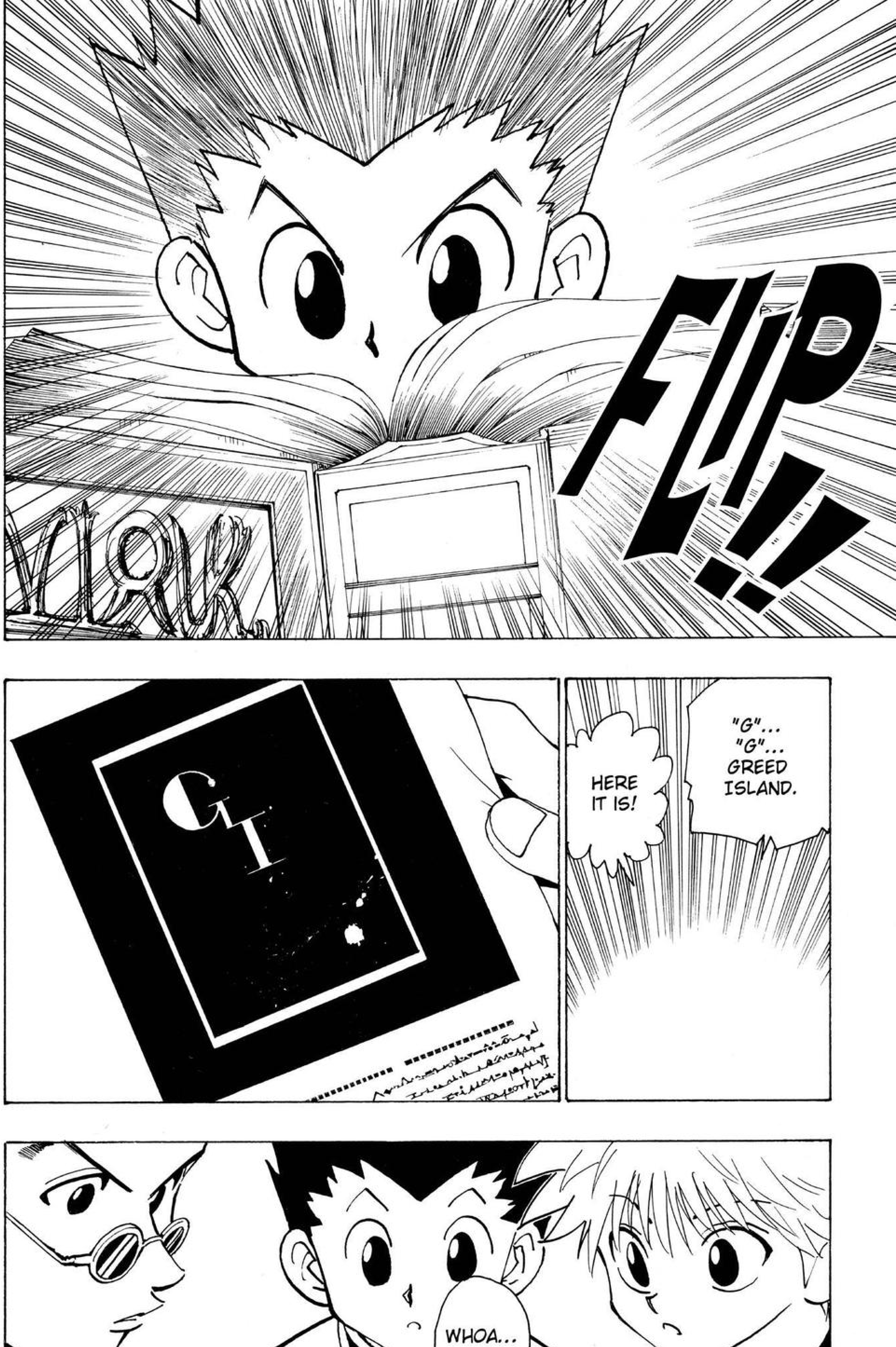



SOUTHERNBEES IS YORKNEW'S LEADING AUCTION HOUSE.
THE CATALOG IS THE ADMISSION TICKET AND COSTS J12 MILLION.
AUCTIONS HAPPEN OVER FIVE DAYS, FROM THE 6TH TO THE 10TH. BUT WE WON'T KNOW WHEN SPECIFIC ITEMS WILL GO ON THE AUCTION BLOCK WITHOUT THE CATALOG.
I SEE.
C'MON, GUYS...
LOOK UP THE STUFF **BEFORE** YOU GET HERE.
OH YEAH.

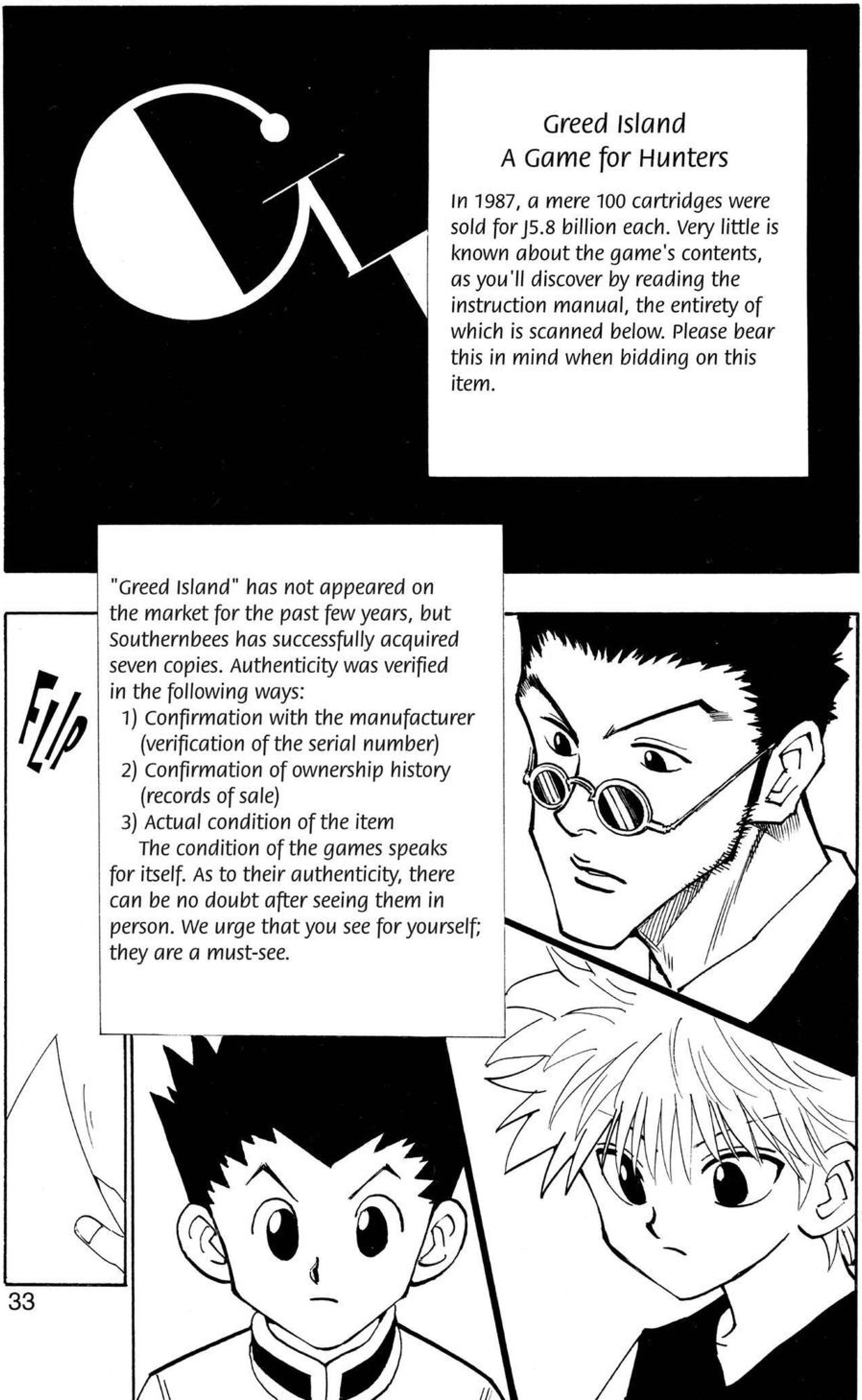

WELCOME!
WE'D LIKE TO BUY A CATALOG.
VERY GOOD, SIR.
HOW WILL YOU BE PAYING?
VIA BANK TRANSFER.
THIS LITTLE GUY?
HERE'S YOUR CATALOG.

READ THIS WAY


ALL OF THE ITEMS UP FOR AUCTION THIS YEAR ARE LISTED INSIDE.
THIS CARD IS YOUR ADMISSION TICKET.
UP TO FIVE PEOPLE CAN GET IN WITH IT FROM THE 6TH TO THE 10TH.
S
BUT TO TAKE PART IN AN AUCTION, YOU'LL HAVE TO REGISTER THE CARD UNDER ONE NAME.
WHOSE WILL IT BE?
GON FREECSS, PLEASE!!


FLIP!!
"G"… "G"… GREED ISLAND.
HERE IT IS!
GI
WHOA…

READ THIS WAY



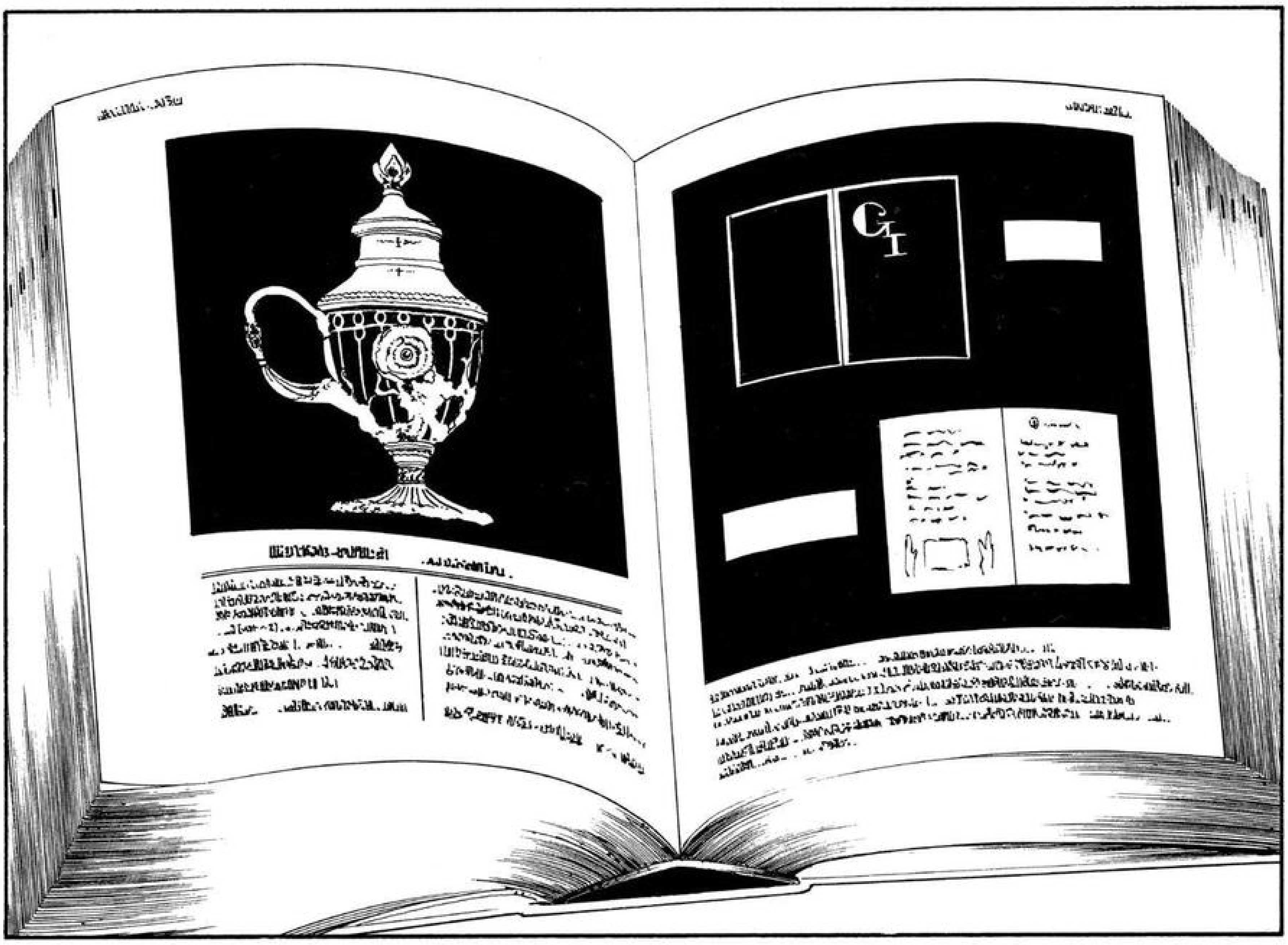
Greed Island
A Game for Hunters

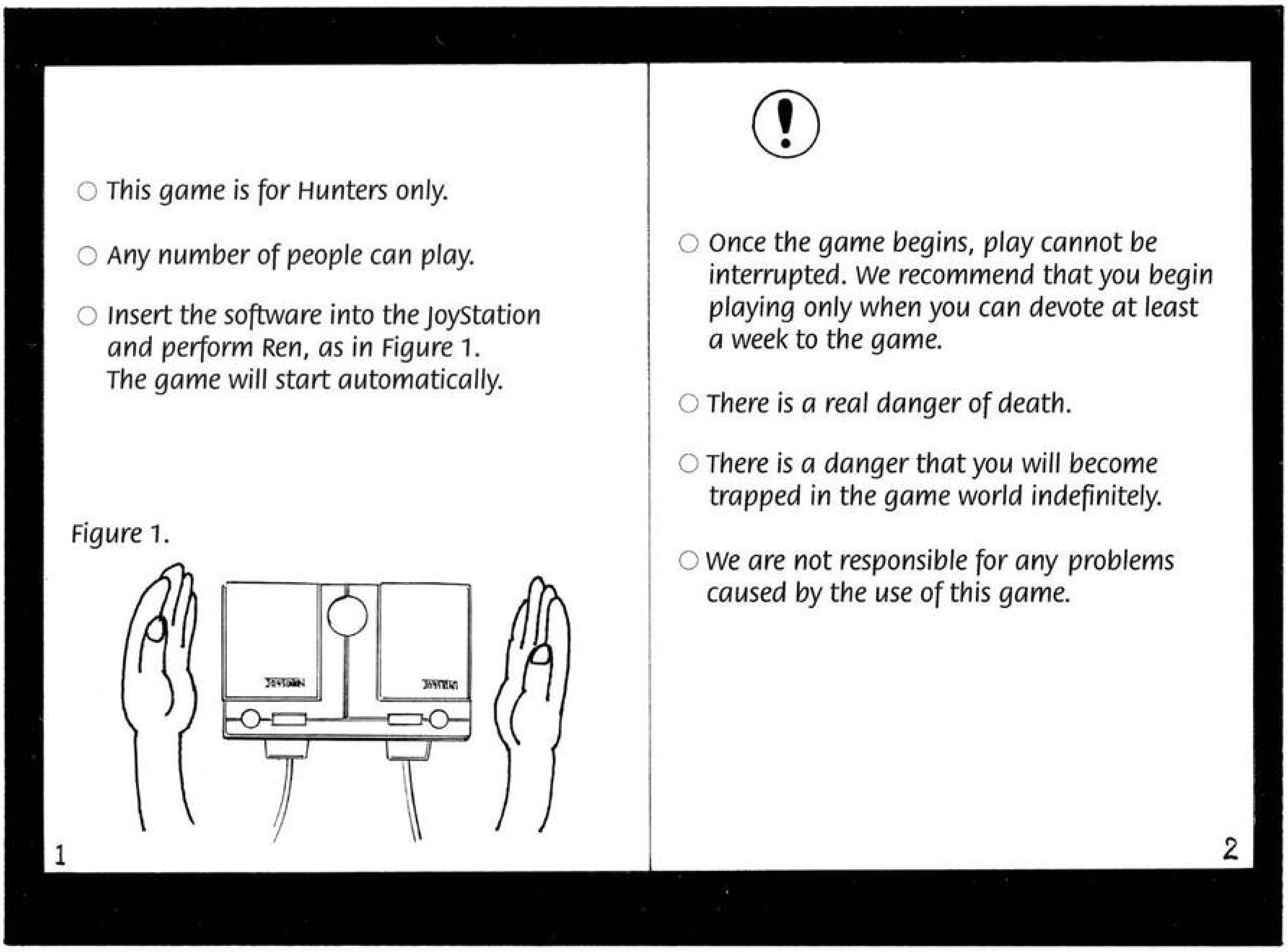
In 1987, a mere 100 cartridges were sold for J5.8 billion each. Very little is known about the game's contents, as you'll discover by reading the instruction manual, the entirety of which is scanned below. Please bear this in mind when bidding on this item.

"Greed Island" has not appeared on the market for the past few years, but Southernbees has successfully acquired seven copies. Authenticity was verified in the following ways:

1) *Confirmation with the manufacturer (verification of the serial number)*
2) *Confirmation of ownership history (records of sale)*
3) *Actual condition of the item*

The condition of the games speaks for itself. As to their authenticity, there can be no doubt after seeing them in person. We urge that you see for yourself; they are a must-see.





○ This game is for Hunters only.

○ Any number of people can play.

○ Insert the software into the JoyStation and perform Ren, as in Figure 1. The game will start automatically.

Figure 1.

1

○ Once the game begins, play cannot be interrupted. We recommend that you begin playing only when you can devote at least a week to the game.

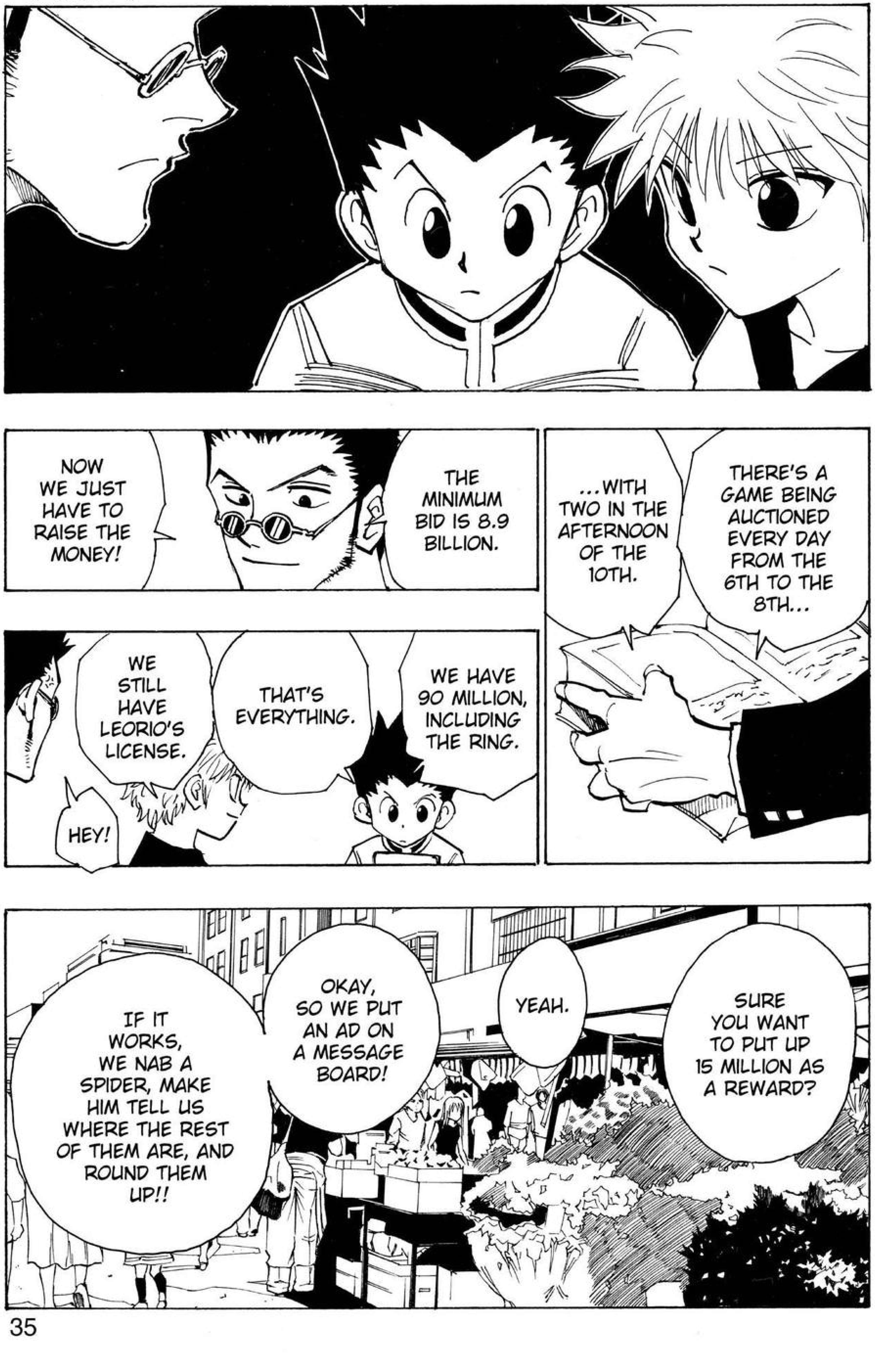
○ There is a real danger of death.

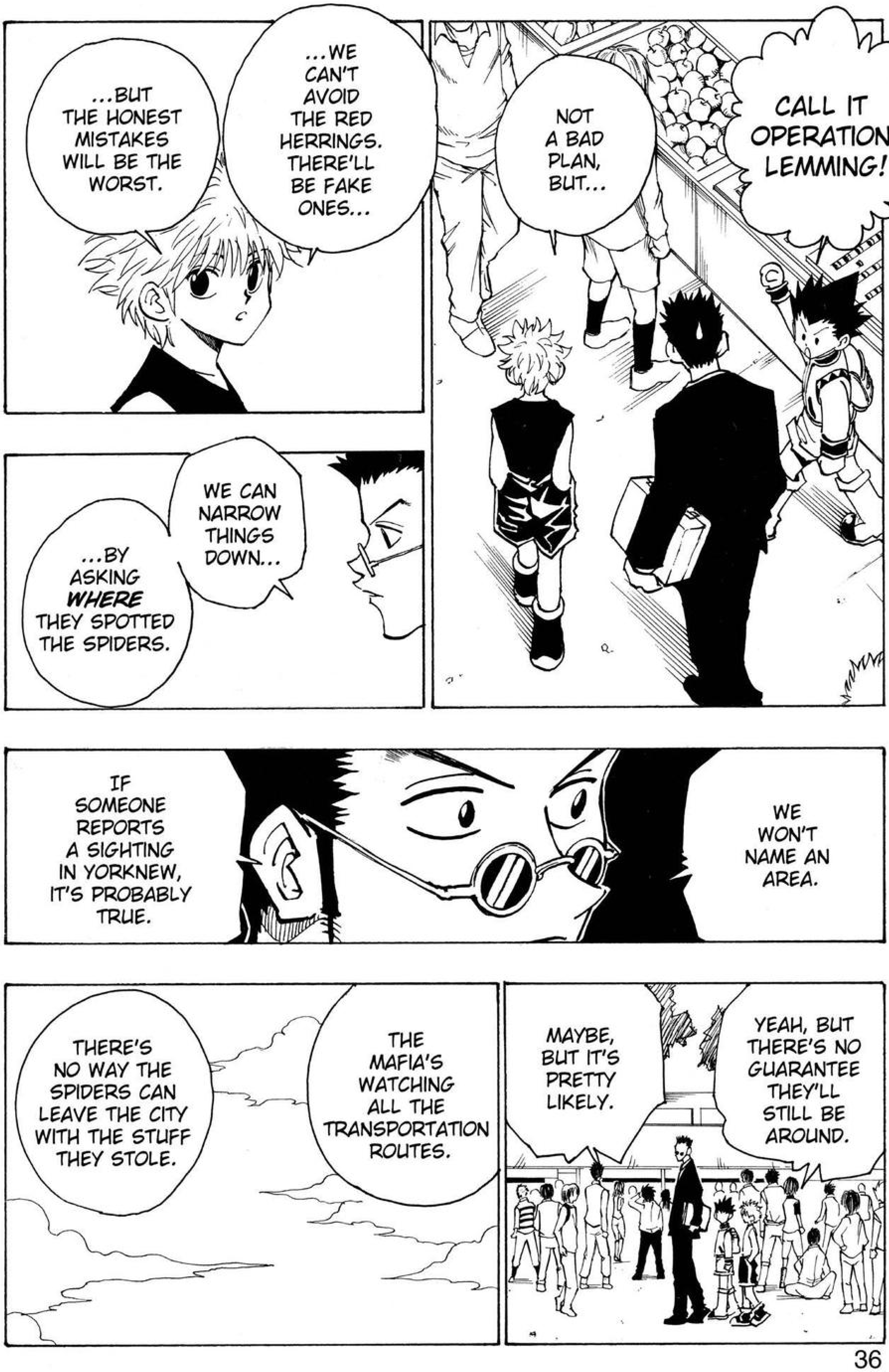
○ There is a danger that you will become trapped in the game world indefinitely.

○ We are not responsible for any problems caused by the use of this game.

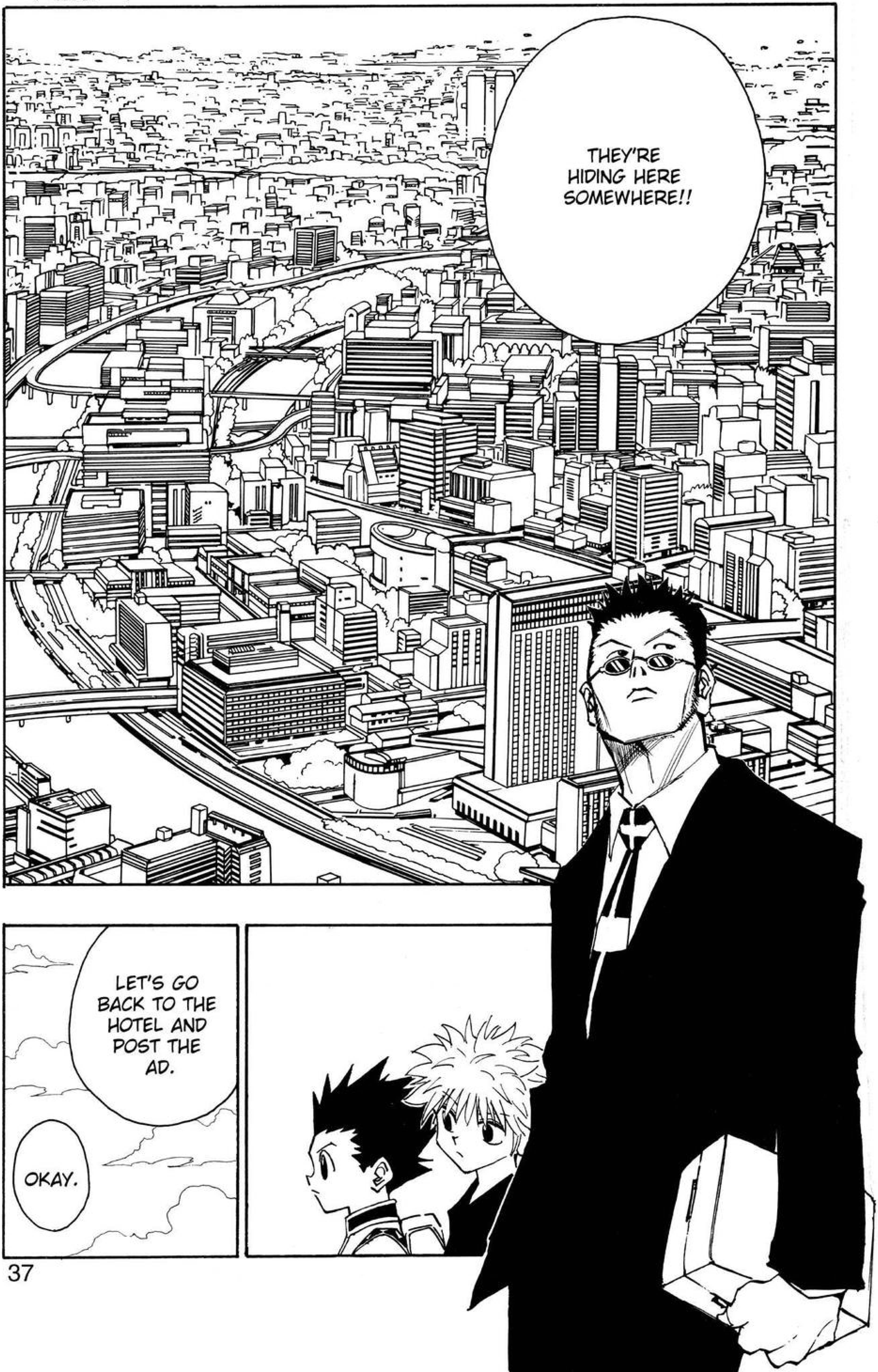
2

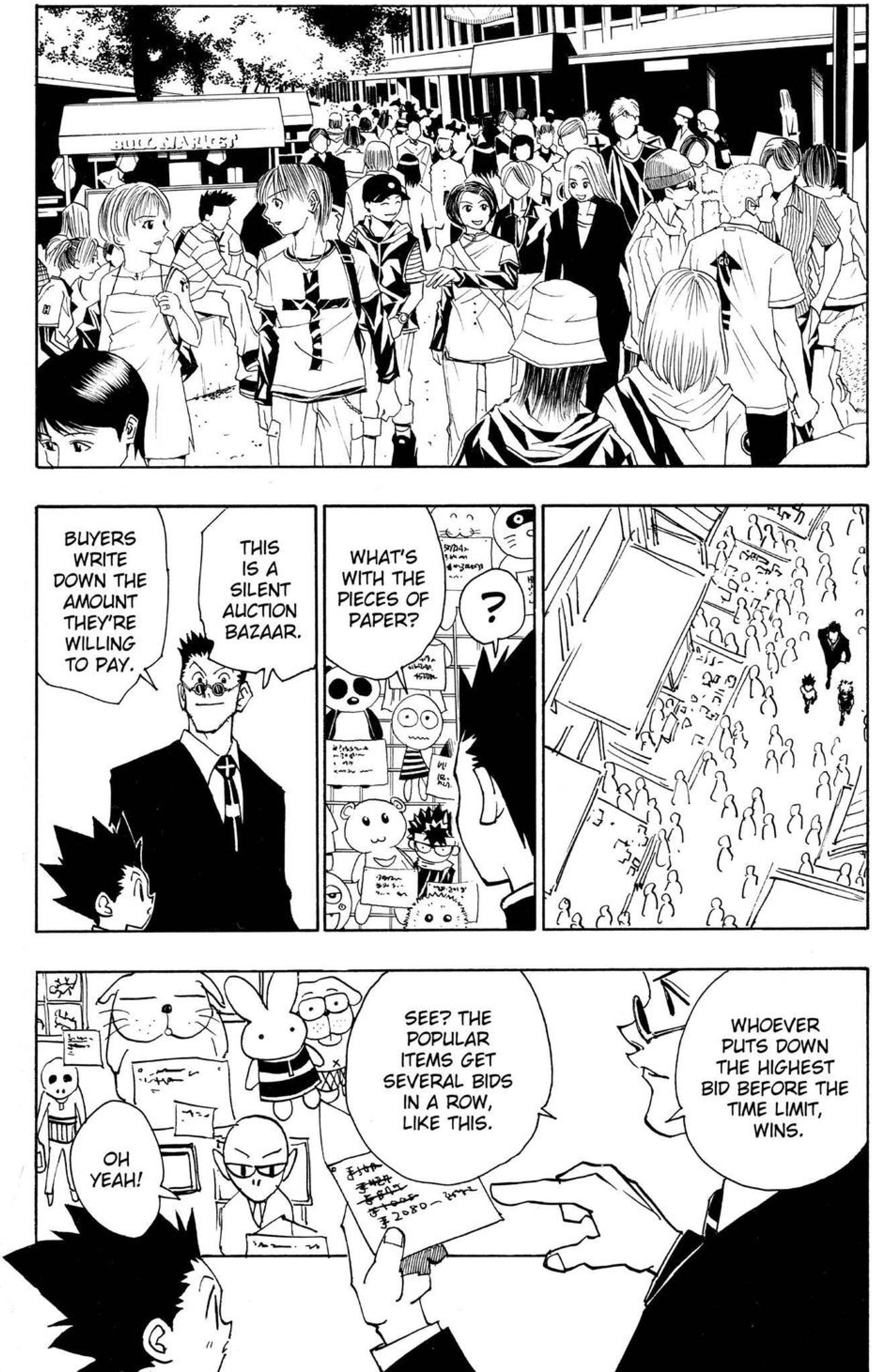
READ THIS WAY

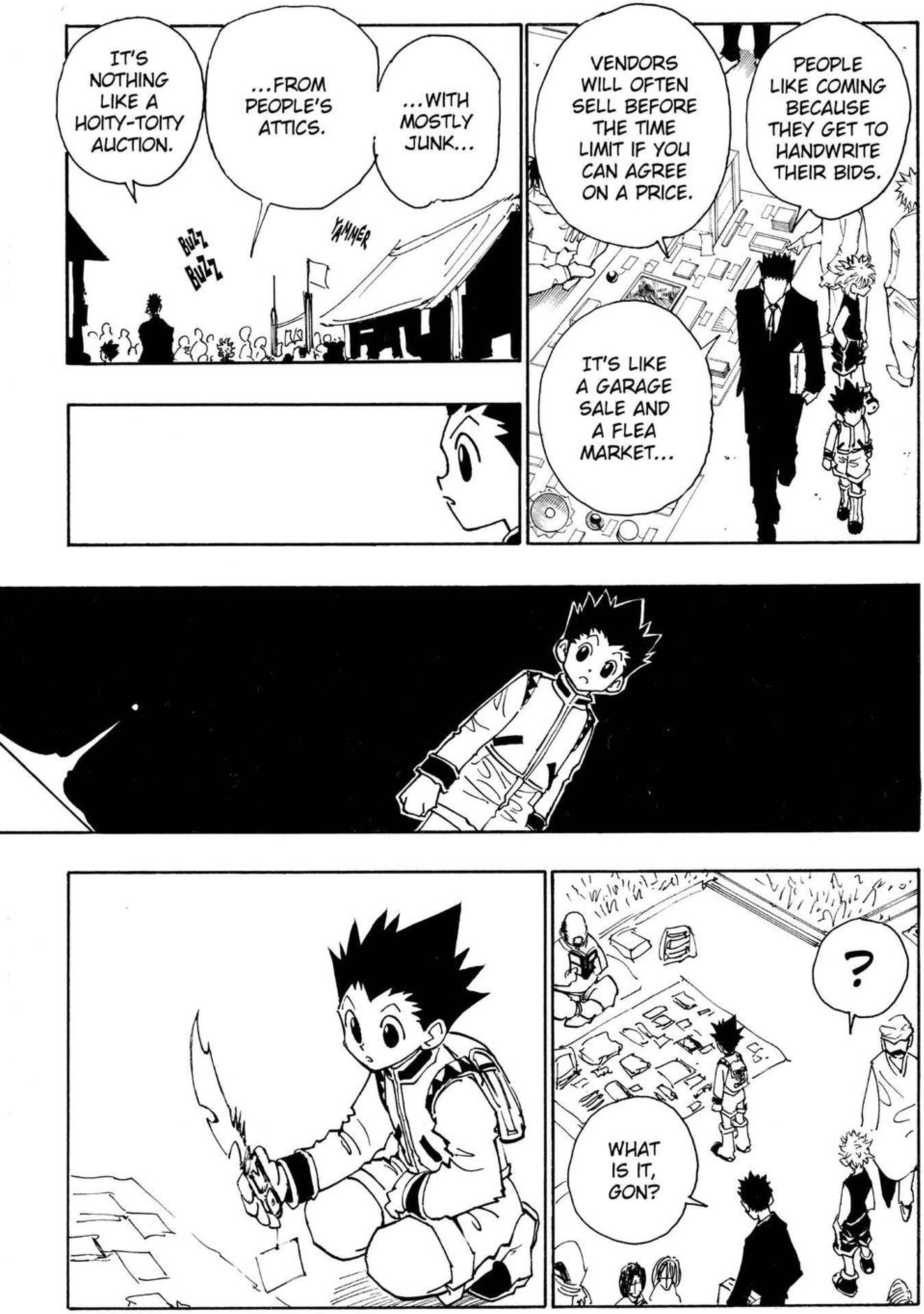

THERE'S A GAME BEING AUCTIONED EVERY DAY FROM THE 6TH TO THE 8TH...
...WITH TWO IN THE AFTERNOON OF THE 10TH.
THE MINIMUM BID IS 8.9 BILLION.
NOW WE JUST HAVE TO RAISE THE MONEY!
WE HAVE 90 MILLION, INCLUDING THE RING.
THAT'S EVERYTHING.
WE STILL HAVE LEORIO'S LICENSE.
HEY!
SURE YOU WANT TO PUT UP 15 MILLION AS A REWARD?
YEAH.
OKAY, SO WE PUT AN AD ON A MESSAGE BOARD!
IF IT WORKS, WE NAB A SPIDER, MAKE HIM TELL US WHERE THE REST OF THEM ARE, AND ROUND THEM UP!!

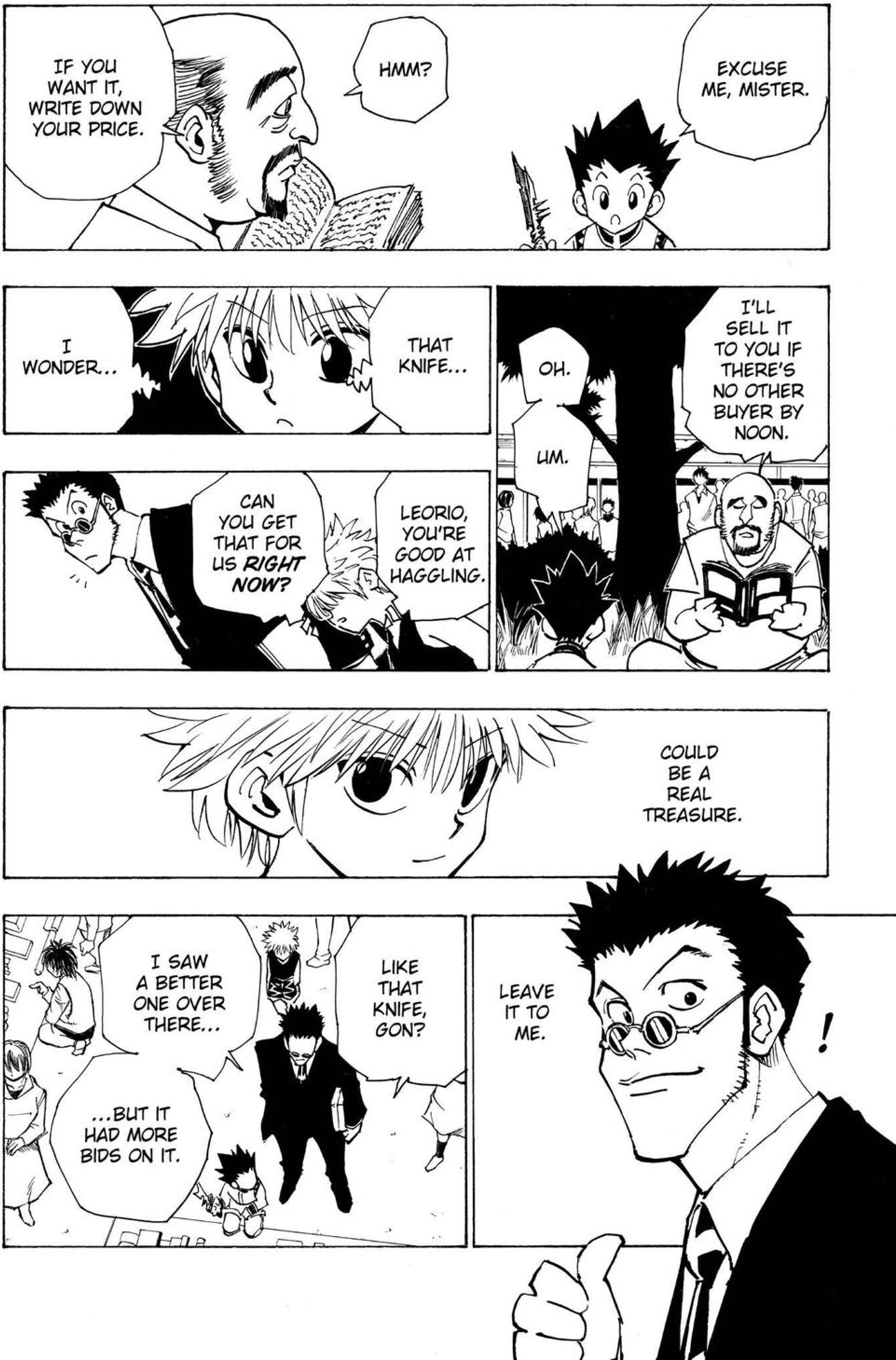

CALL IT OPERATION LEMMING!
NOT A BAD PLAN, BUT...
...WE CAN'T AVOID THE RED HERRINGS. THERE'LL BE FAKE ONES...
...BUT THE HONEST MISTAKES WILL BE THE WORST.
WE CAN NARROW THINGS DOWN...
...BY ASKING ***WHERE*** THEY SPOTTED THE SPIDERS.
WE WON'T NAME AN AREA.
IF SOMEONE REPORTS A SIGHTING IN YORKNEW, IT'S PROBABLY TRUE.
YEAH, BUT THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THEY'LL STILL BE AROUND.
MAYBE, BUT IT'S PRETTY LIKELY.
THE MAFIA'S WATCHING ALL THE TRANSPORTATION ROUTES.
THERE'S NO WAY THE SPIDERS CAN LEAVE THE CITY WITH THE STUFF THEY STOLE.

READ THIS WAY

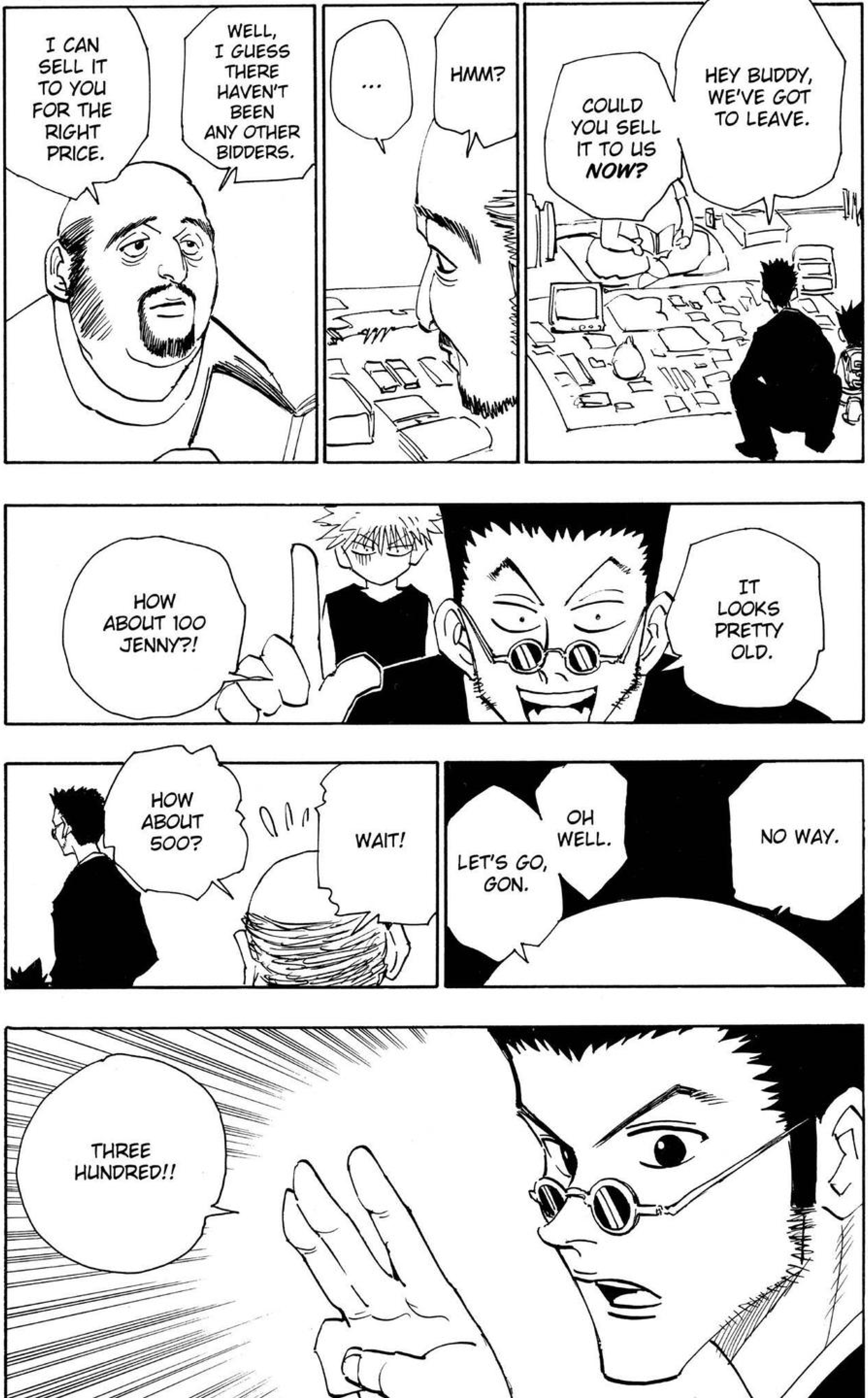

THEY'RE HIDING HERE SOMEWHERE!!
LET'S GO BACK TO THE HOTEL AND POST THE AD.
OKAY.

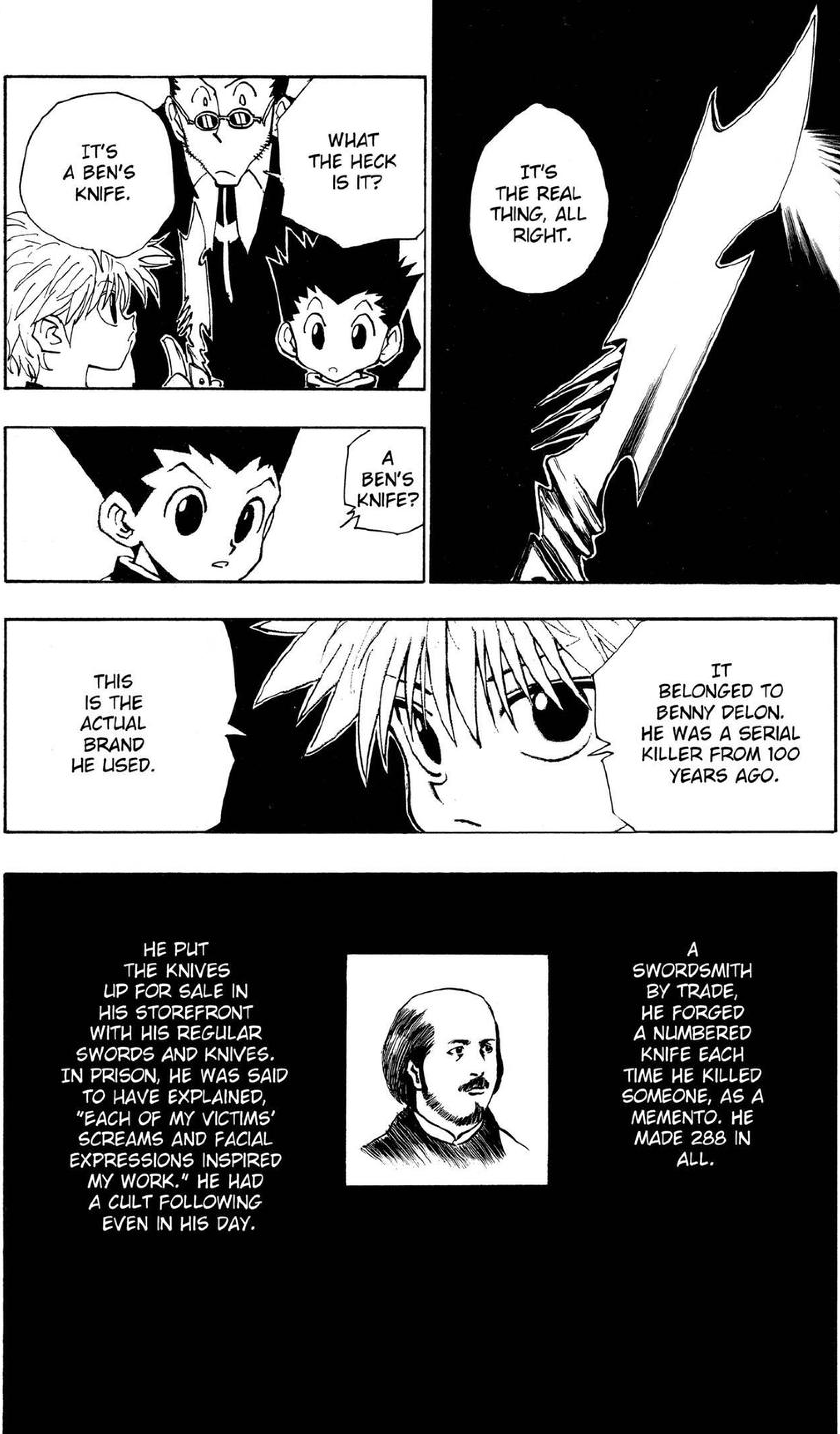

BULL MARKET
WHAT'S WITH THE PIECES OF PAPER?
?
THIS IS A SILENT AUCTION BAZAAR.
BUYERS WRITE DOWN THE AMOUNT THEY'RE WILLING TO PAY.
WHOEVER PUTS DOWN THE HIGHEST BID BEFORE THE TIME LIMIT, WINS.
SEE? THE POPULAR ITEMS GET SEVERAL BIDS IN A ROW, LIKE THIS.
OH YEAH!

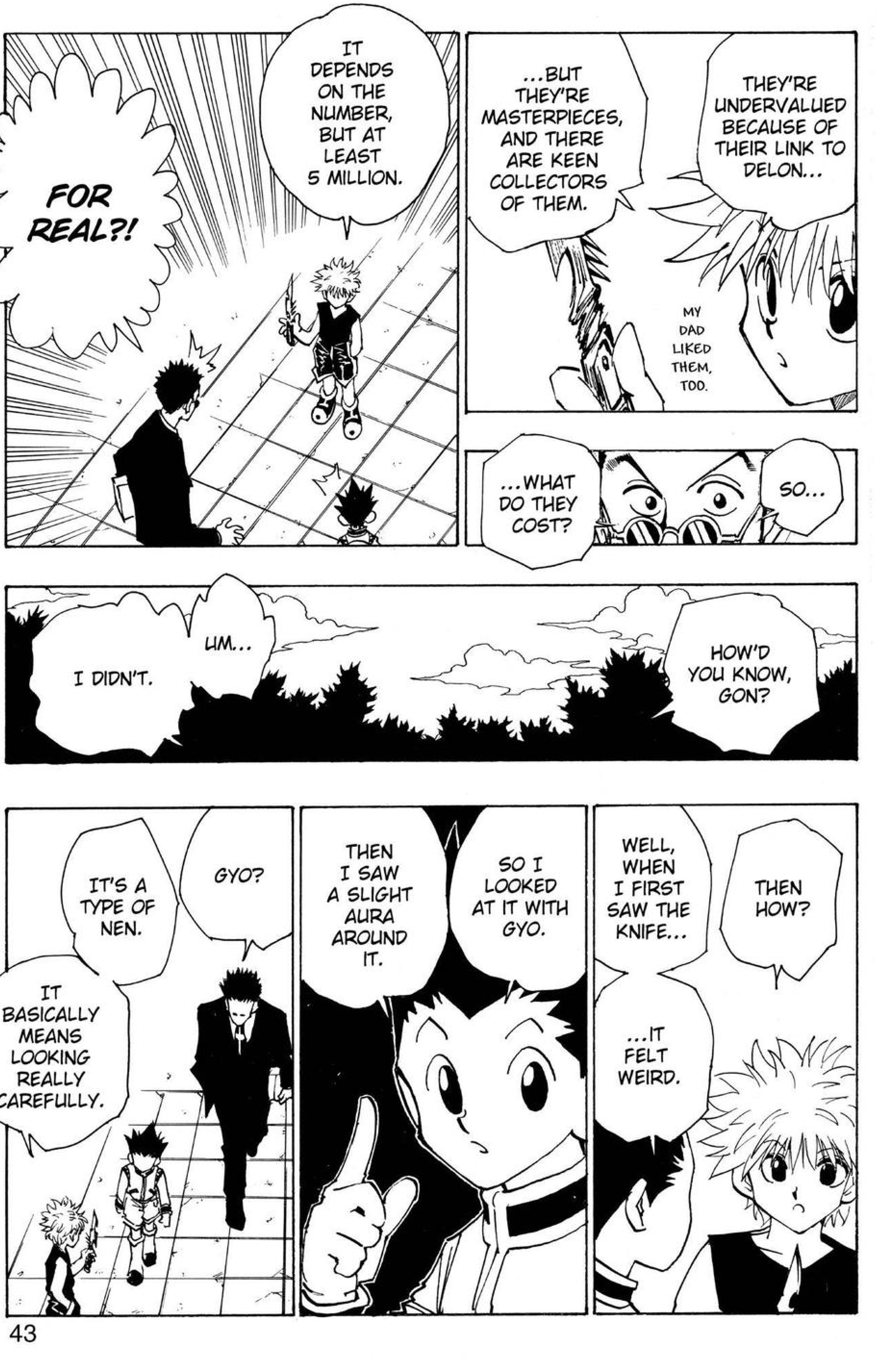

PEOPLE LIKE COMING BECAUSE THEY GET TO HANDWRITE THEIR BIDS.
VENDORS WILL OFTEN SELL BEFORE THE TIME LIMIT IF YOU CAN AGREE ON A PRICE.
IT'S LIKE A GARAGE SALE AND A FLEA MARKET...
...WITH MOSTLY JUNK...
...FROM PEOPLE'S ATTICS.
IT'S NOTHING LIKE A HOITY-TOITY AUCTION.
YAMMER
BUZZ BUZZ
?
WHAT IS IT, GON?

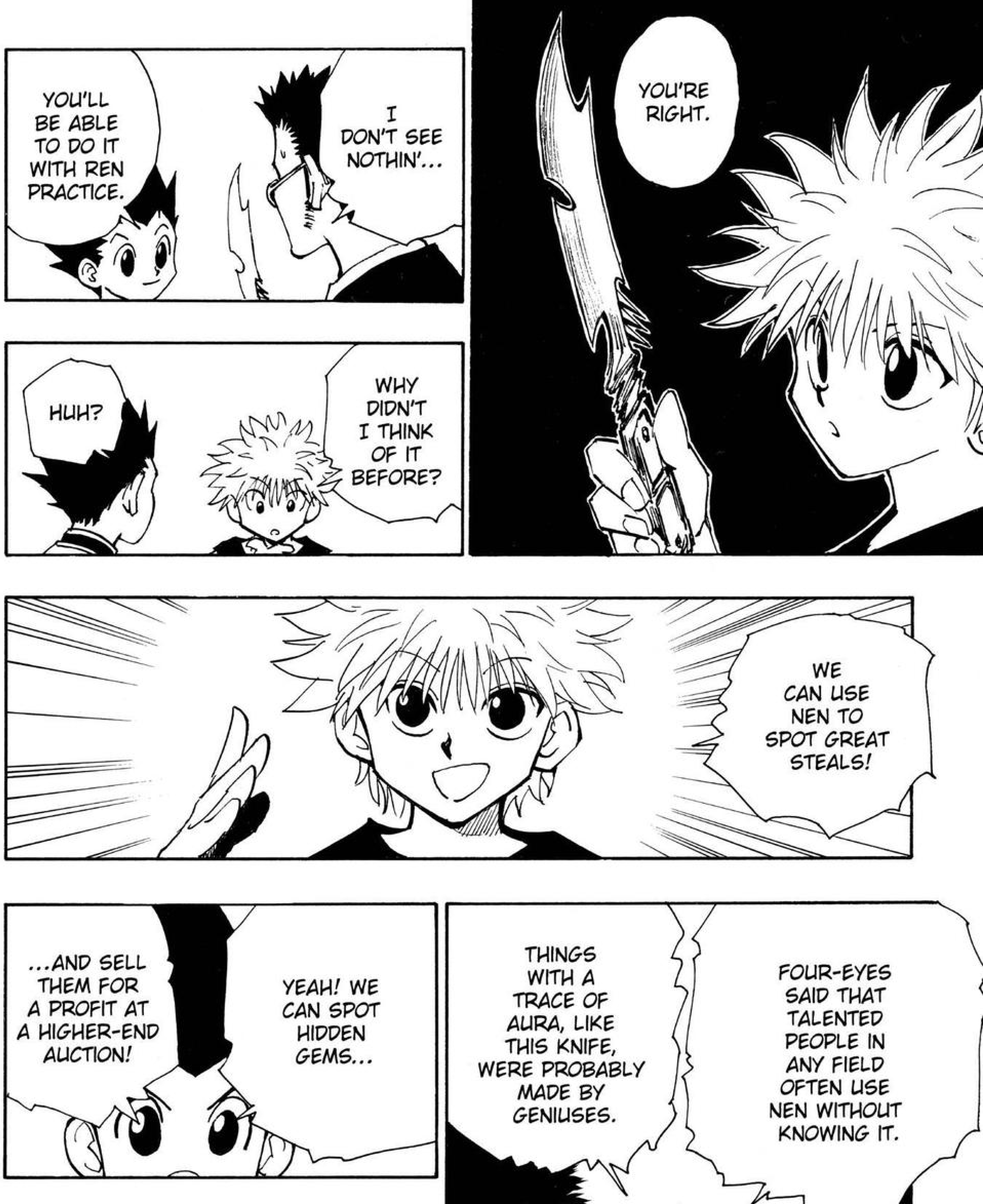

EXCUSE ME, MISTER.
HMM?
IF YOU WANT IT, WRITE DOWN YOUR PRICE.
I'LL SELL IT TO YOU IF THERE'S NO OTHER BUYER BY NOON.
OH.
UM.
THAT KNIFE...
I WONDER...
LEORIO, YOU'RE GOOD AT HAGGLING.
CAN YOU GET THAT FOR US *RIGHT NOW?*
COULD BE A REAL TREASURE.
!
LEAVE IT TO ME.
LIKE THAT KNIFE, GON?
I SAW A BETTER ONE OVER THERE...
...BUT IT HAD MORE BIDS ON IT.

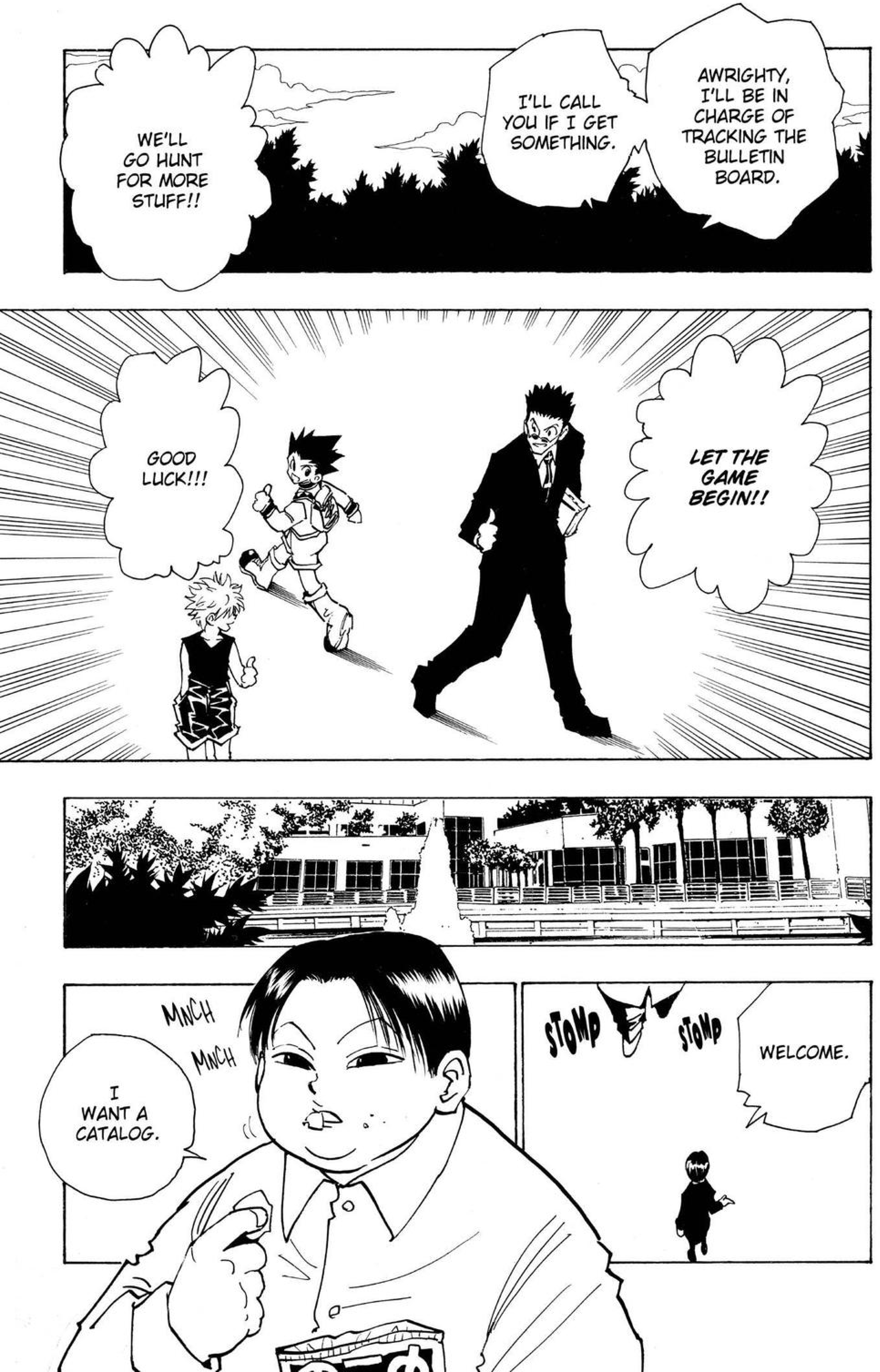
READ THIS WAY

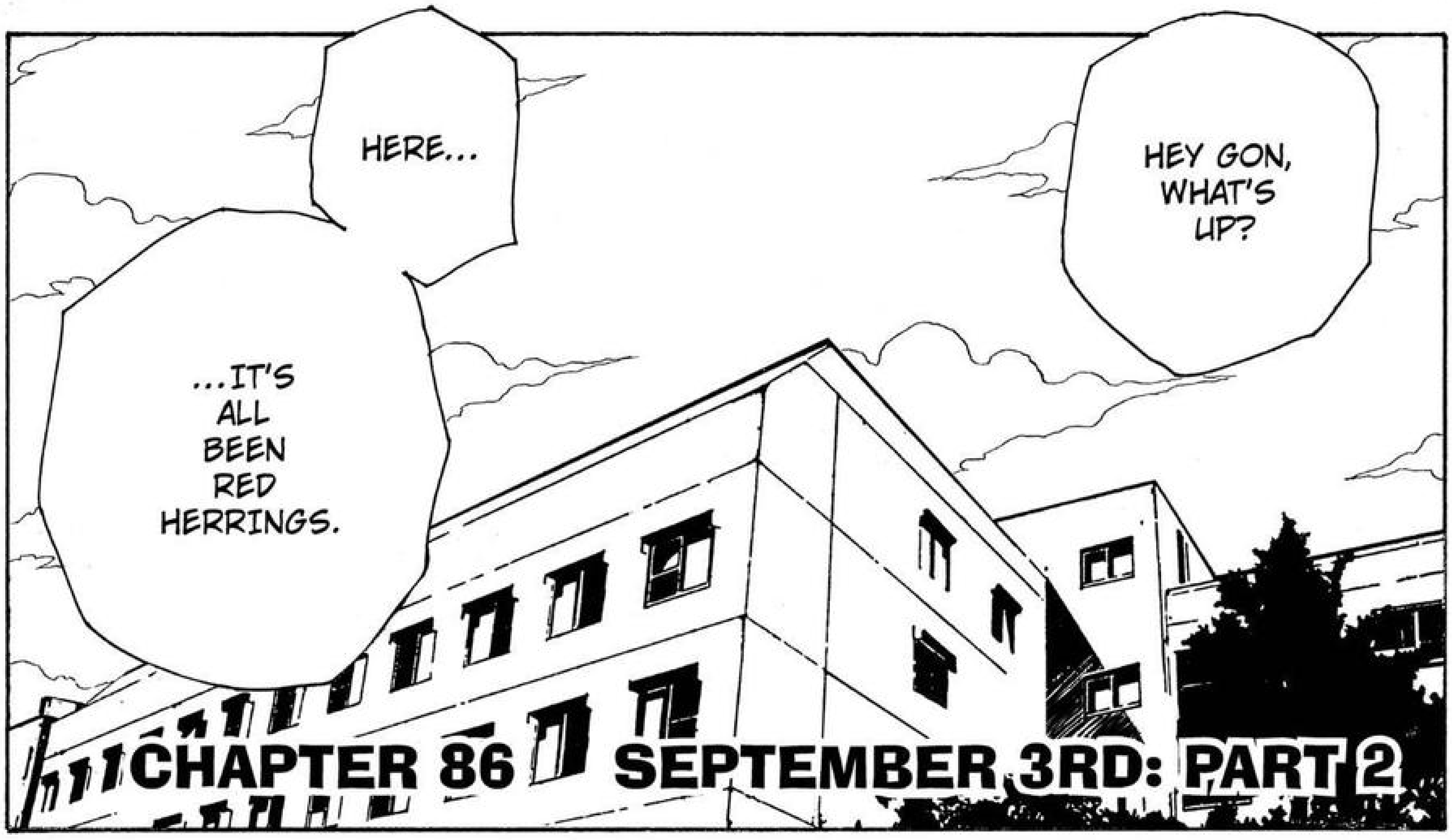

HEY BUDDY, WE'VE GOT TO LEAVE.
COULD YOU SELL IT TO US *NOW?*
HMM?
...
WELL, I GUESS THERE HAVEN'T BEEN ANY OTHER BIDDERS.
I CAN SELL IT TO YOU FOR THE RIGHT PRICE.
IT LOOKS PRETTY OLD.
HOW ABOUT 100 JENNY?!
NO WAY.
OH WELL.
LET'S GO, GON.
WAIT!
HOW ABOUT 500?
THREE HUNDRED!!


IT'S THE REAL THING, ALL RIGHT.
WHAT THE HECK IS IT?
IT'S A BEN'S KNIFE.
A BEN'S KNIFE?
IT BELONGED TO BENNY DELON. HE WAS A SERIAL KILLER FROM 100 YEARS AGO.
THIS IS THE ACTUAL BRAND HE USED.
A SWORDSMITH BY TRADE, HE FORGED A NUMBERED KNIFE EACH TIME HE KILLED SOMEONE, AS A MEMENTO. HE MADE 288 IN ALL.
HE PUT THE KNIVES UP FOR SALE IN HIS STOREFRONT WITH HIS REGULAR SWORDS AND KNIVES. IN PRISON, HE WAS SAID TO HAVE EXPLAINED, "EACH OF MY VICTIMS' SCREAMS AND FACIAL EXPRESSIONS INSPIRED MY WORK." HE HAD A CULT FOLLOWING EVEN IN HIS DAY.

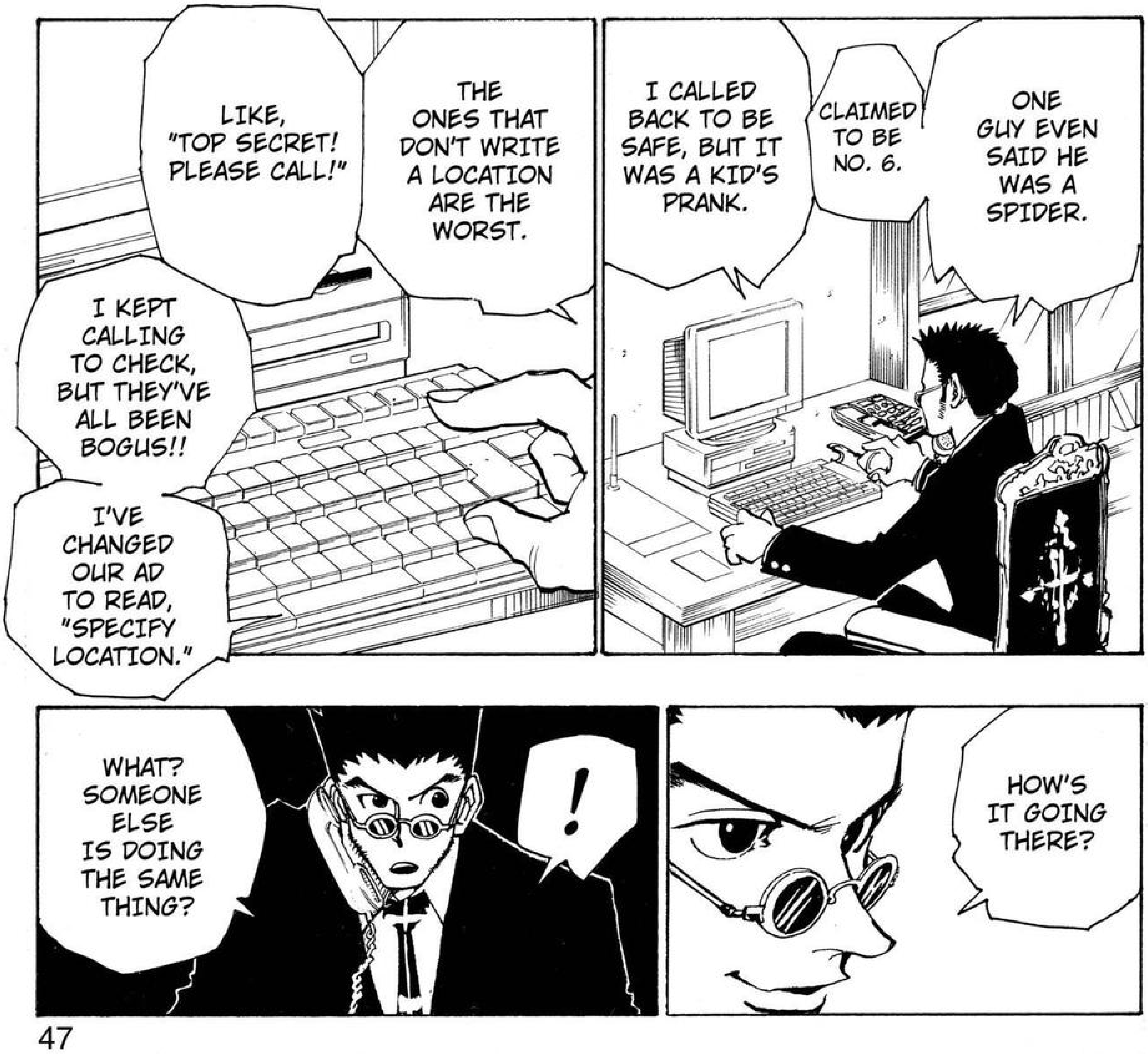

THEY'RE UNDERVALUED BECAUSE OF THEIR LINK TO DELON...
...BUT THEY'RE MASTERPIECES, AND THERE ARE KEEN COLLECTORS OF THEM.
MY DAD LIKED THEM, TOO.
SO...
...WHAT DO THEY COST?
IT DEPENDS ON THE NUMBER, BUT AT LEAST 5 MILLION.
FOR REAL?!
HOW'D YOU KNOW, GON?
UM...
I DIDN'T.
THEN HOW?
WELL, WHEN I FIRST SAW THE KNIFE...
...IT FELT WEIRD.
SO I LOOKED AT IT WITH GYO.
THEN I SAW A SLIGHT AURA AROUND IT.
GYO?
IT'S A TYPE OF NEN.
IT BASICALLY MEANS LOOKING REALLY CAREFULLY.


I DON'T SEE NOTHIN'...
YOU'LL BE ABLE TO DO IT WITH REN PRACTICE.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF IT BEFORE?
HUH?
WE CAN USE NEN TO SPOT GREAT STEALS!
FOUR-EYES SAID THAT TALENTED PEOPLE IN ANY FIELD OFTEN USE NEN WITHOUT KNOWING IT.
THINGS WITH A TRACE OF AURA, LIKE THIS KNIFE, WERE PROBABLY MADE BY GENIUSES.
YEAH! WE CAN SPOT HIDDEN GEMS...
...AND SELL THEM FOR A PROFIT AT A HIGHER-END AUCTION!
CALL IT OPERATION "EASY MONEY WITH NEN"!!
BWONNG


AWRIGHTY, I'LL BE IN CHARGE OF TRACKING THE BULLETIN BOARD.
I'LL CALL YOU IF I GET SOMETHING.
WE'LL GO HUNT FOR MORE STUFF!!
LET THE GAME BEGIN!!
GOOD LUCK!!!
STOMP
STOMP
WELCOME.
MNCH
MNCH
I WANT A CATALOG.

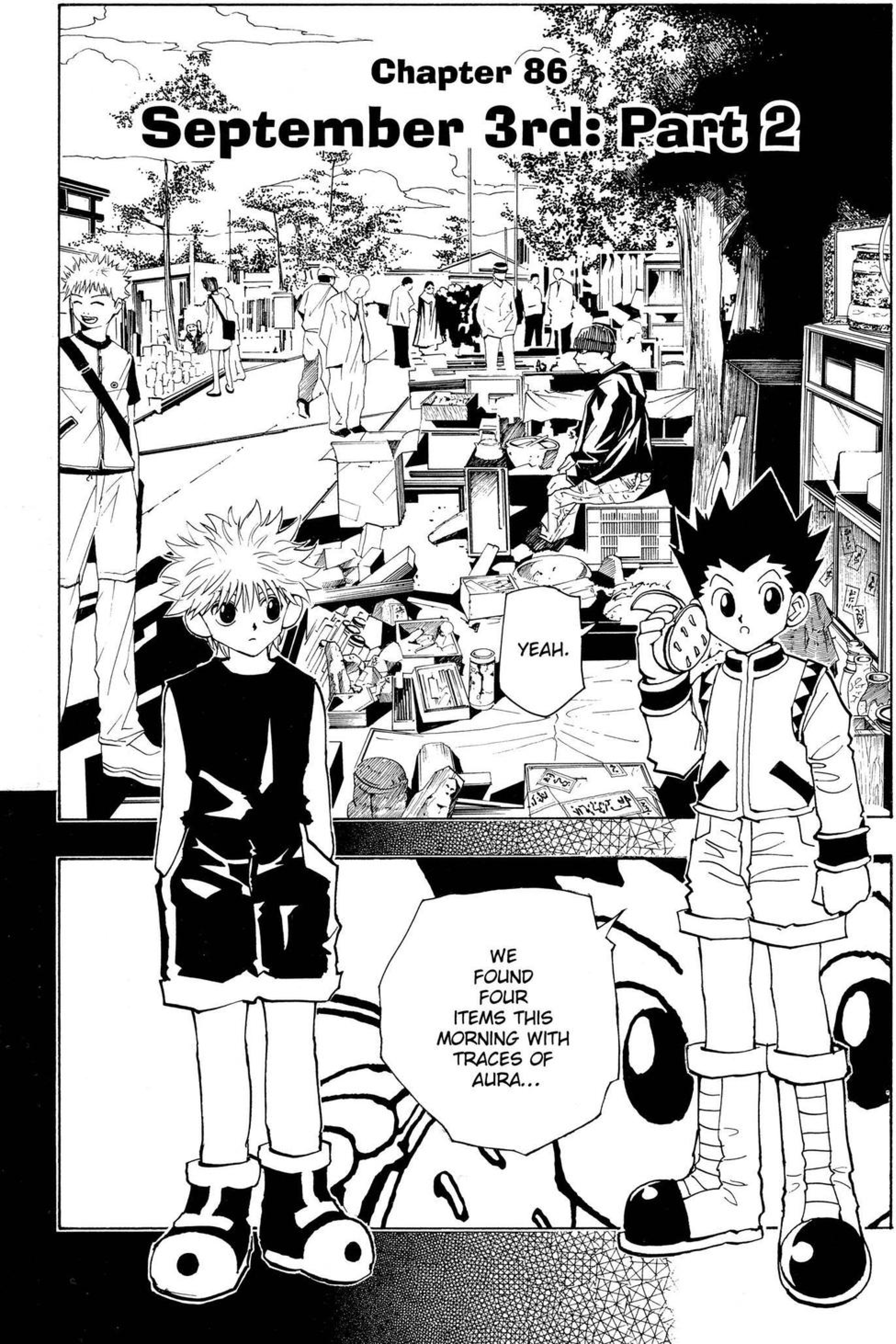

HEY GON, WHAT'S UP?
HERE...
...IT'S ALL BEEN RED HERRINGS.

CHAPTER 86 SEPTEMBER 3RD: PART 2

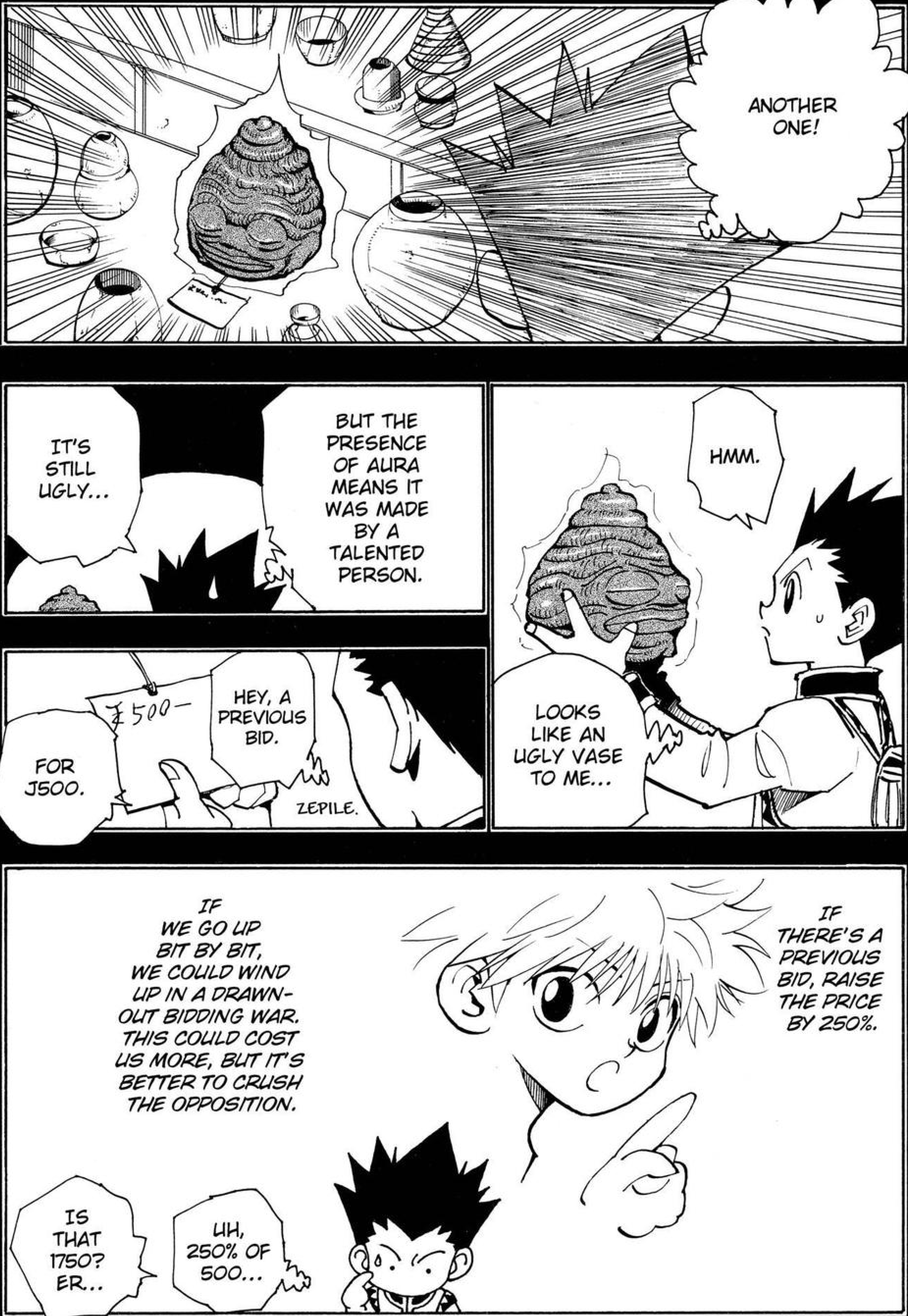

ONE GUY EVEN SAID HE WAS A SPIDER.
CLAIMED TO BE NO. 6.
I CALLED BACK TO BE SAFE, BUT IT WAS A KID'S PRANK.
THE ONES THAT DON'T WRITE A LOCATION ARE THE WORST.
LIKE, "TOP SECRET! PLEASE CALL!"
I KEPT CALLING TO CHECK, BUT THEY'VE ALL BEEN BOGUS!!
I'VE CHANGED OUR AD TO READ, "SPECIFY LOCATION."
HOW'S IT GOING THERE?
!
WHAT? SOMEONE ELSE IS DOING THE SAME THING?

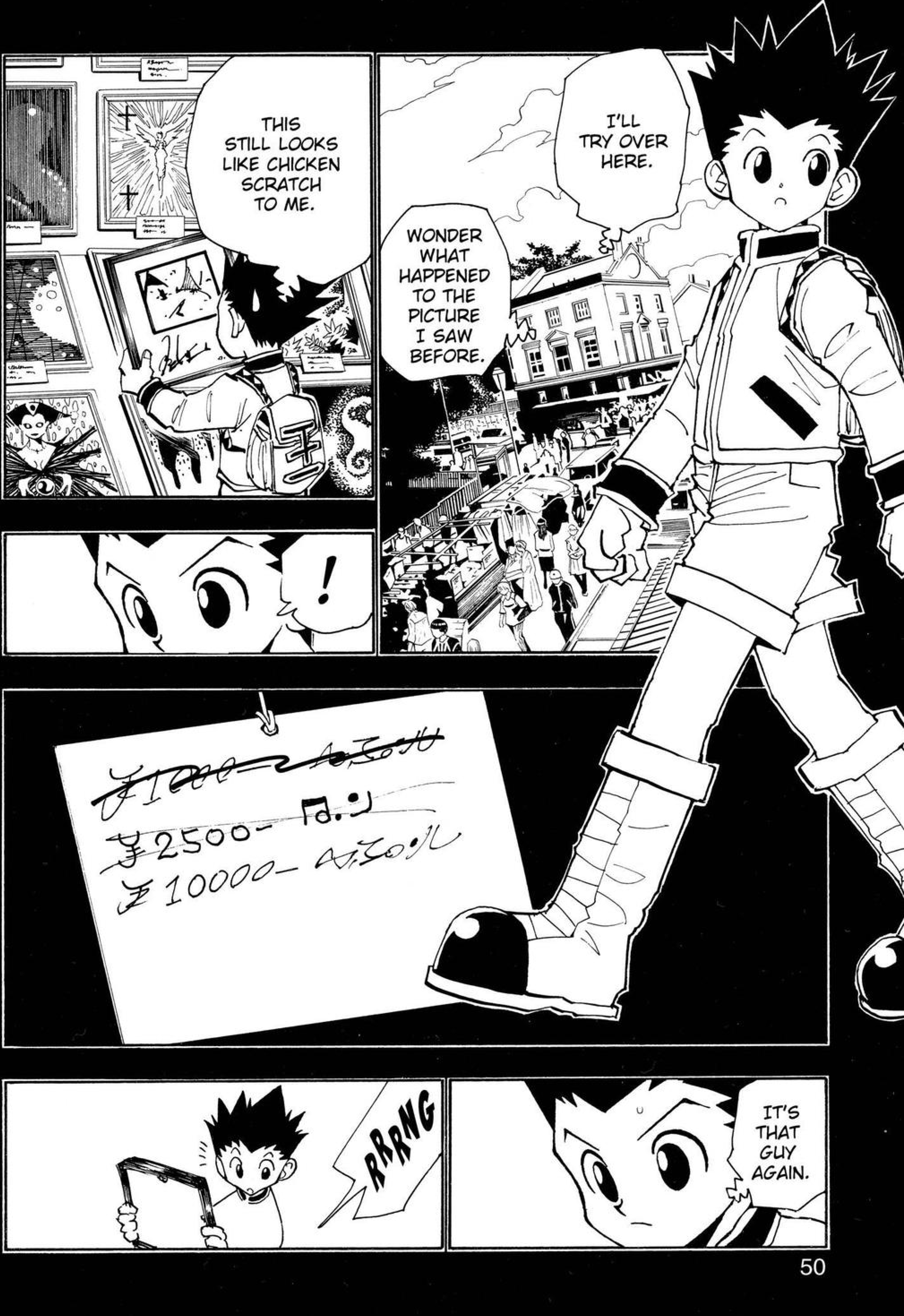
Chapter 86

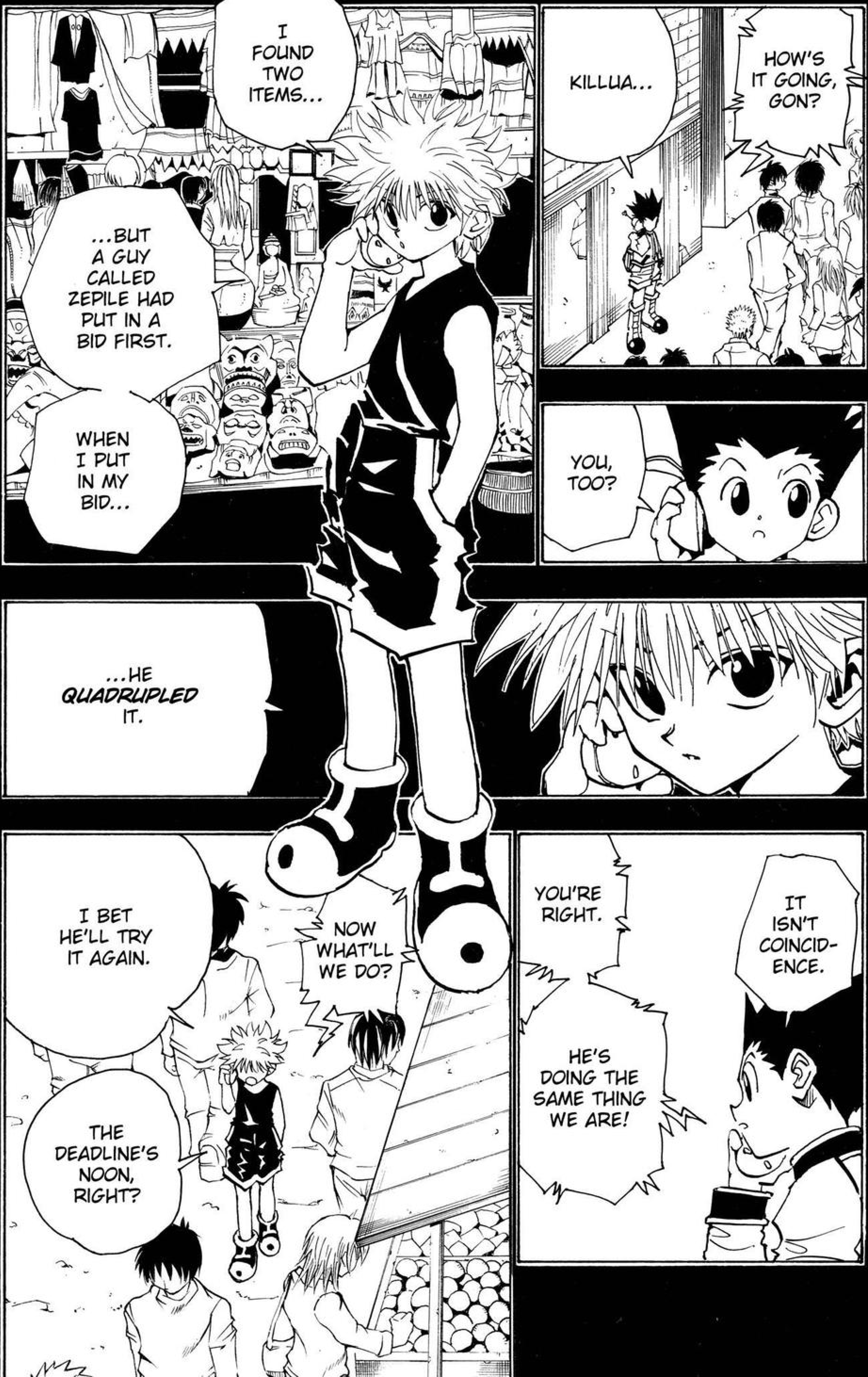
September 3rd: Part 2

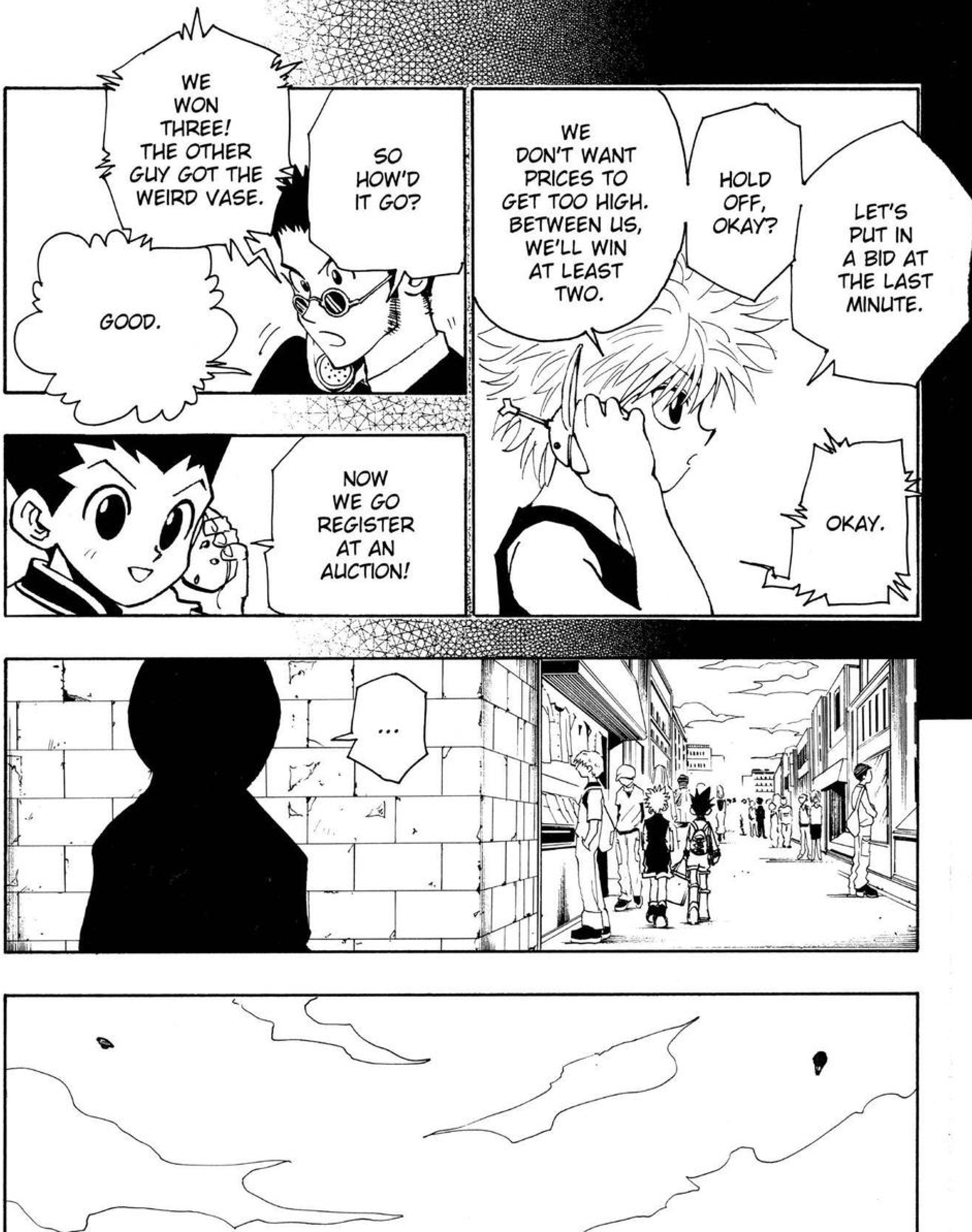

YEAH.
WE FOUND FOUR ITEMS THIS MORNING WITH TRACES OF AURA...

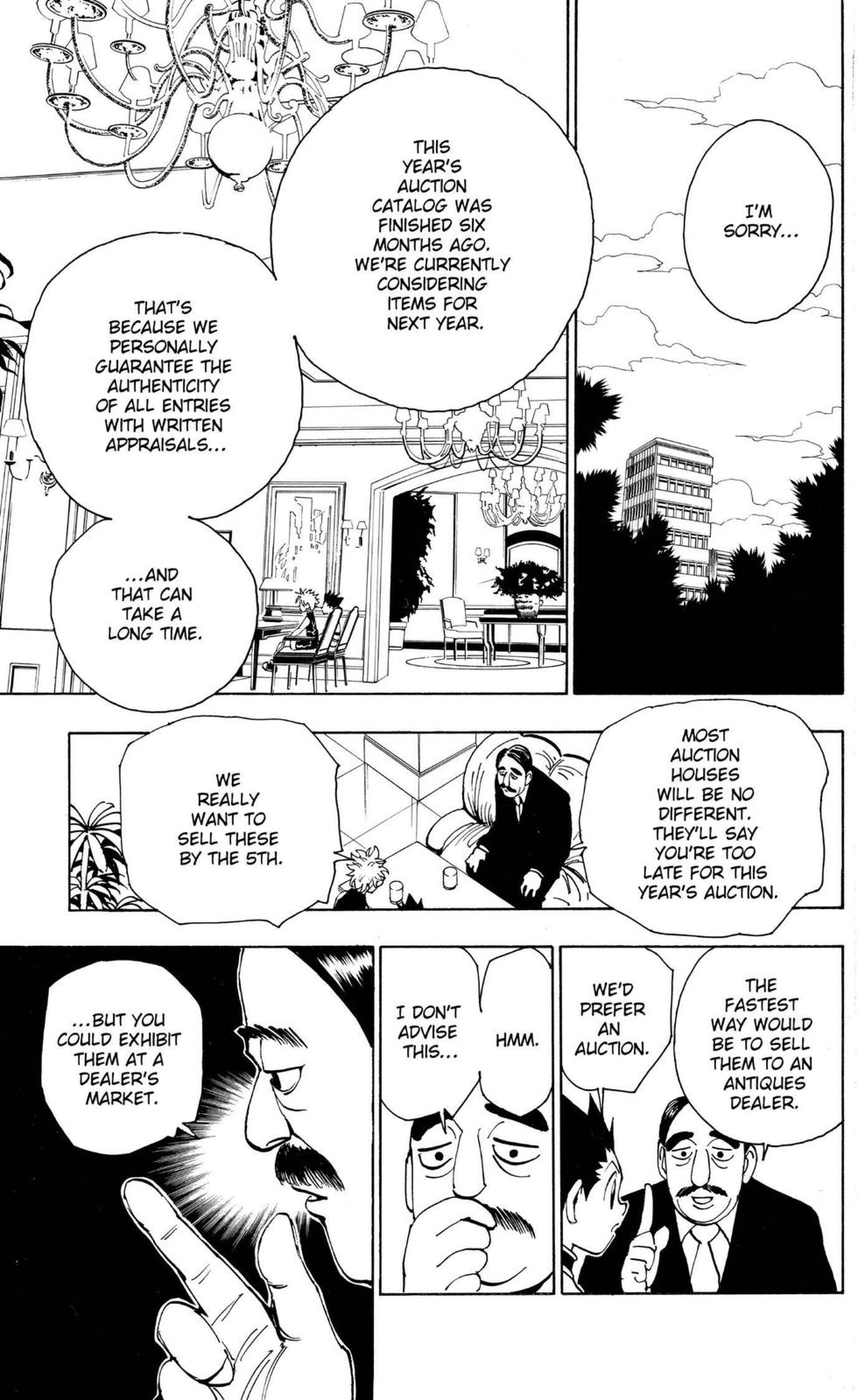
READ THIS WAY

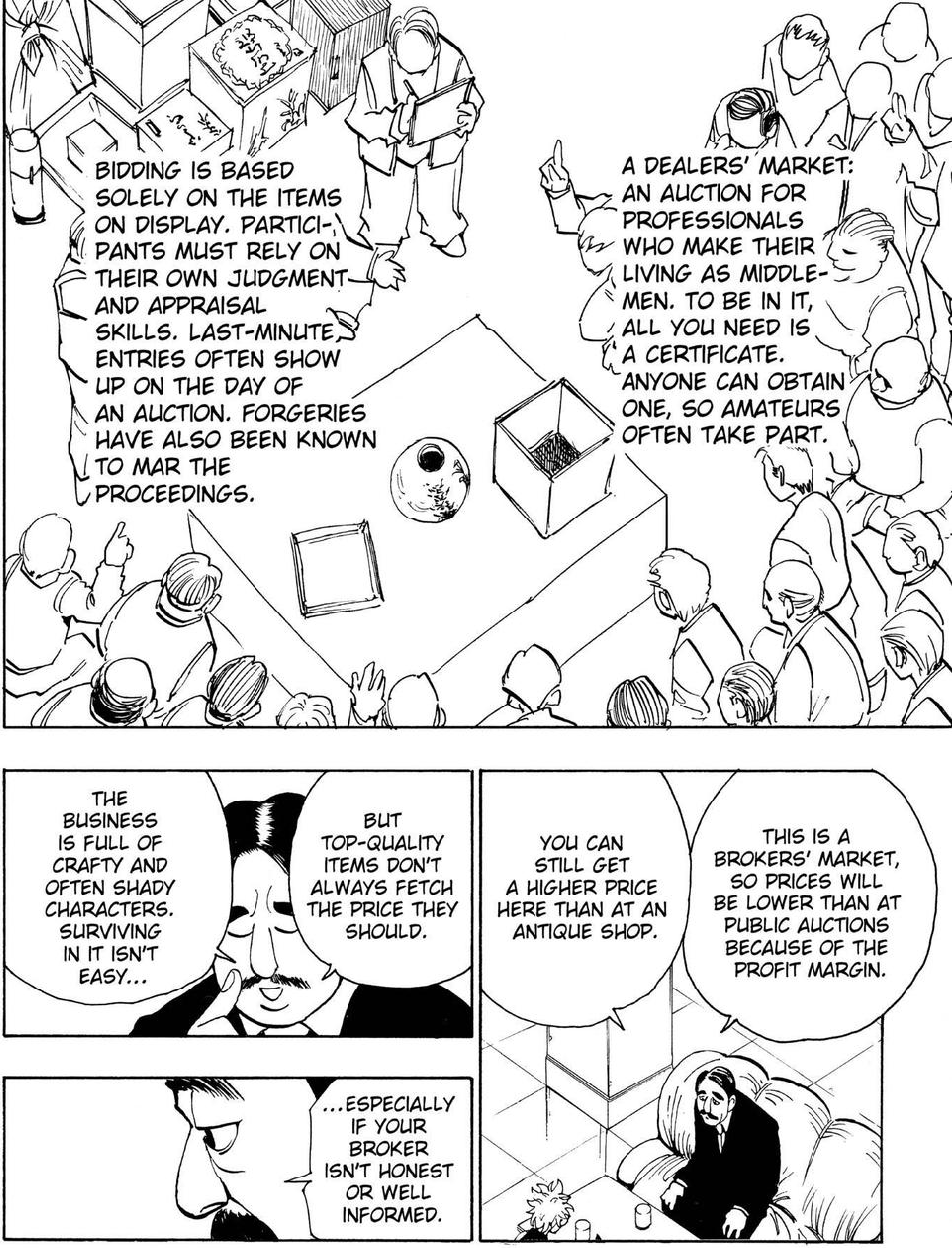

ANOTHER ONE!
HMM.
LOOKS LIKE AN UGLY VASE TO ME...
BUT THE PRESENCE OF AURA MEANS IT WAS MADE BY A TALENTED PERSON.
IT'S STILL UGLY...
HEY, A PREVIOUS BID.
ZEPILE.
J500-
FOR J500.
IF THERE'S A PREVIOUS BID, RAISE THE PRICE BY 250%.
IF WE GO UP BIT BY BIT, WE COULD WIND UP IN A DRAWN-OUT BIDDING WAR. THIS COULD COST US MORE, BUT IT'S BETTER TO CRUSH THE OPPOSITION.
UH, 250% OF 500...
IS THAT 1750? ER...

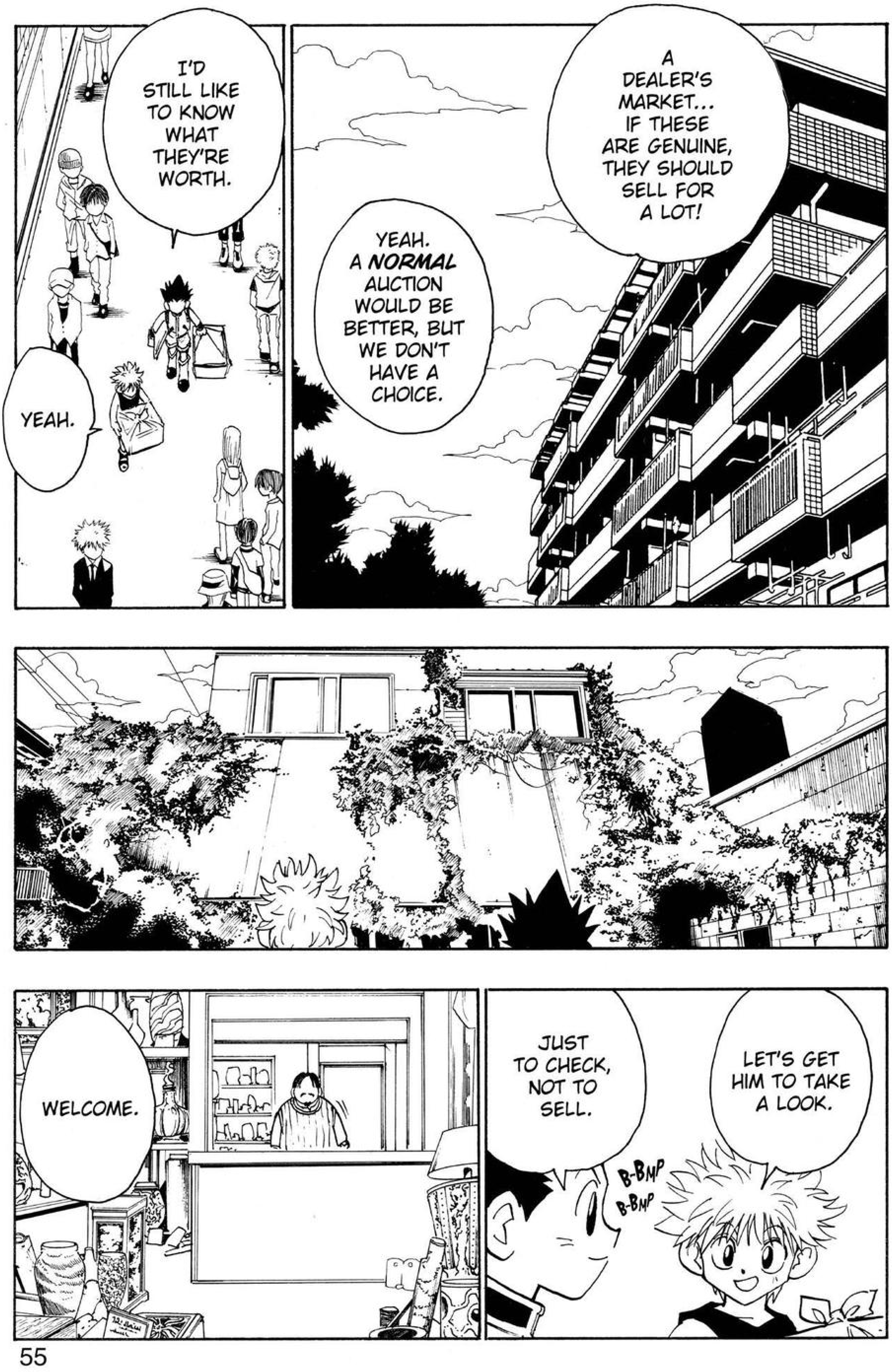

I'LL TRY OVER HERE.
WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PICTURE I SAW BEFORE.
THIS STILL LOOKS LIKE CHICKEN SCRATCH TO ME.
!
~~¥1000-~~
~~¥2500-~~
¥10000-
IT'S THAT GUY AGAIN.
RRRNG

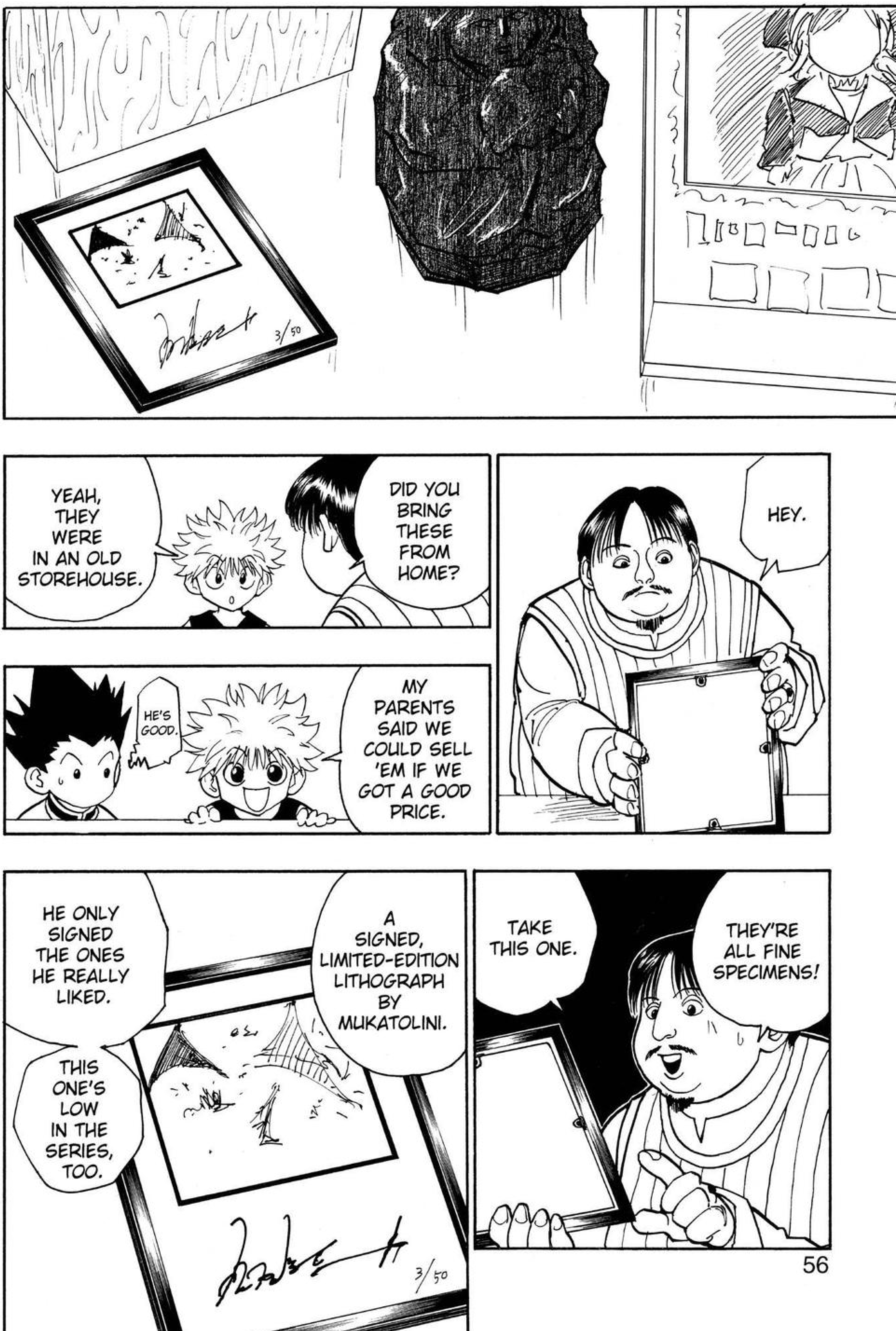

HOW'S IT GOING, GON?
KILLUA...
YOU, TOO?
I FOUND TWO ITEMS...
...BUT A GUY CALLED ZEPILE HAD PUT IN A BID FIRST.
WHEN I PUT IN MY BID...
...HE *QUADRUPLED* IT.
IT ISN'T COINCIDENCE.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
HE'S DOING THE SAME THING WE ARE!
NOW WHAT'LL WE DO?
I BET HE'LL TRY IT AGAIN.
THE DEADLINE'S NOON, RIGHT?


LET'S PUT IN A BID AT THE LAST MINUTE.
HOLD OFF, OKAY?
WE DON'T WANT PRICES TO GET TOO HIGH. BETWEEN US, WE'LL WIN AT LEAST TWO.
OKAY.
SO HOW'D IT GO?
WE WON THREE! THE OTHER GUY GOT THE WEIRD VASE.
GOOD.
NOW WE GO REGISTER AT AN AUCTION!
...

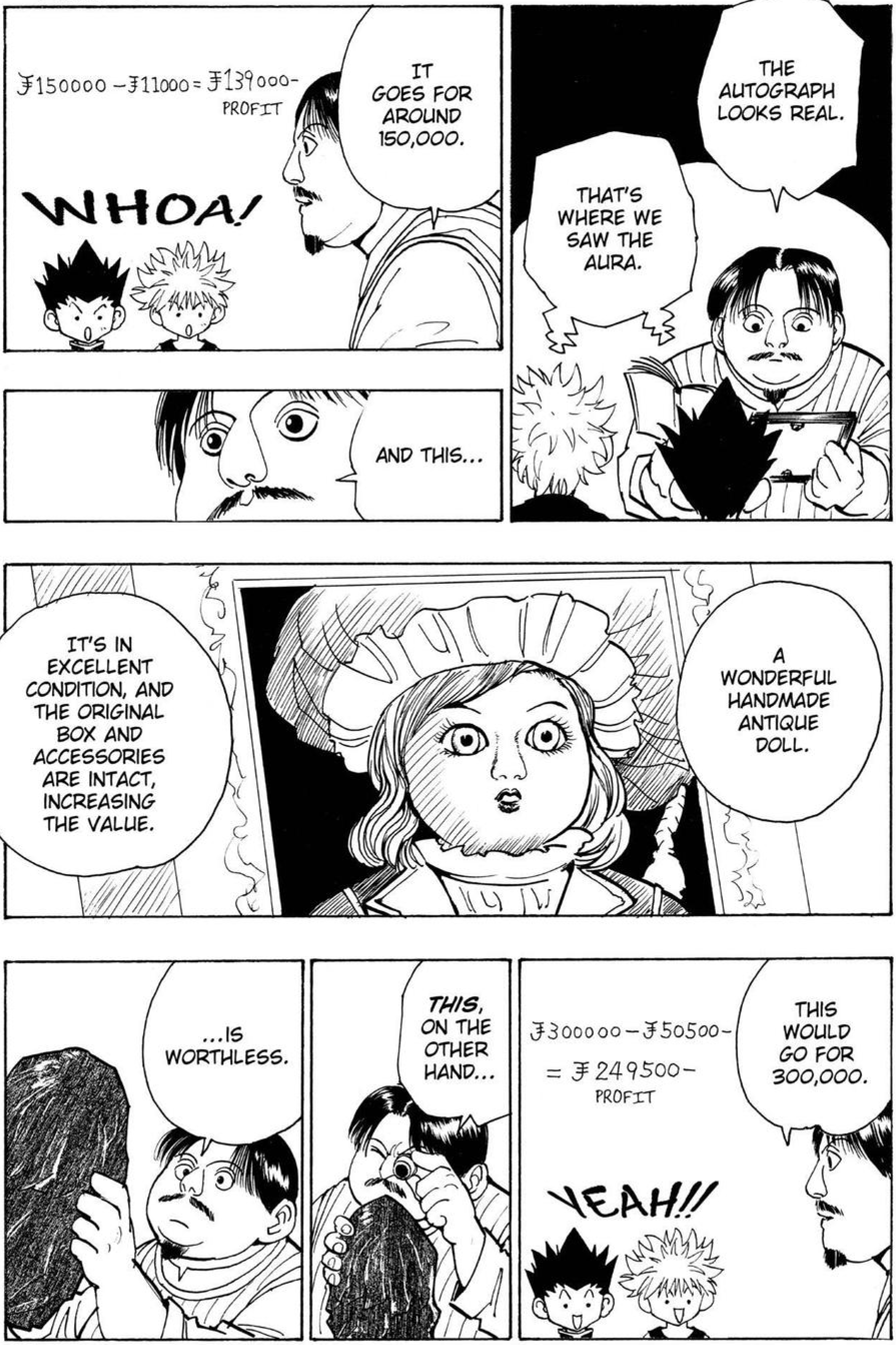

I'M SORRY...
THIS YEAR'S AUCTION CATALOG WAS FINISHED SIX MONTHS AGO. WE'RE CURRENTLY CONSIDERING ITEMS FOR NEXT YEAR.
THAT'S BECAUSE WE PERSONALLY GUARANTEE THE AUTHENTICITY OF ALL ENTRIES WITH WRITTEN APPRAISALS...
...AND THAT CAN TAKE A LONG TIME.
MOST AUCTION HOUSES WILL BE NO DIFFERENT. THEY'LL SAY YOU'RE TOO LATE FOR THIS YEAR'S AUCTION.
WE REALLY WANT TO SELL THESE BY THE 5TH.
THE FASTEST WAY WOULD BE TO SELL THEM TO AN ANTIQUES DEALER.
WE'D PREFER AN AUCTION.
HMM.
I DON'T ADVISE THIS...
...BUT YOU COULD EXHIBIT THEM AT A DEALER'S MARKET.

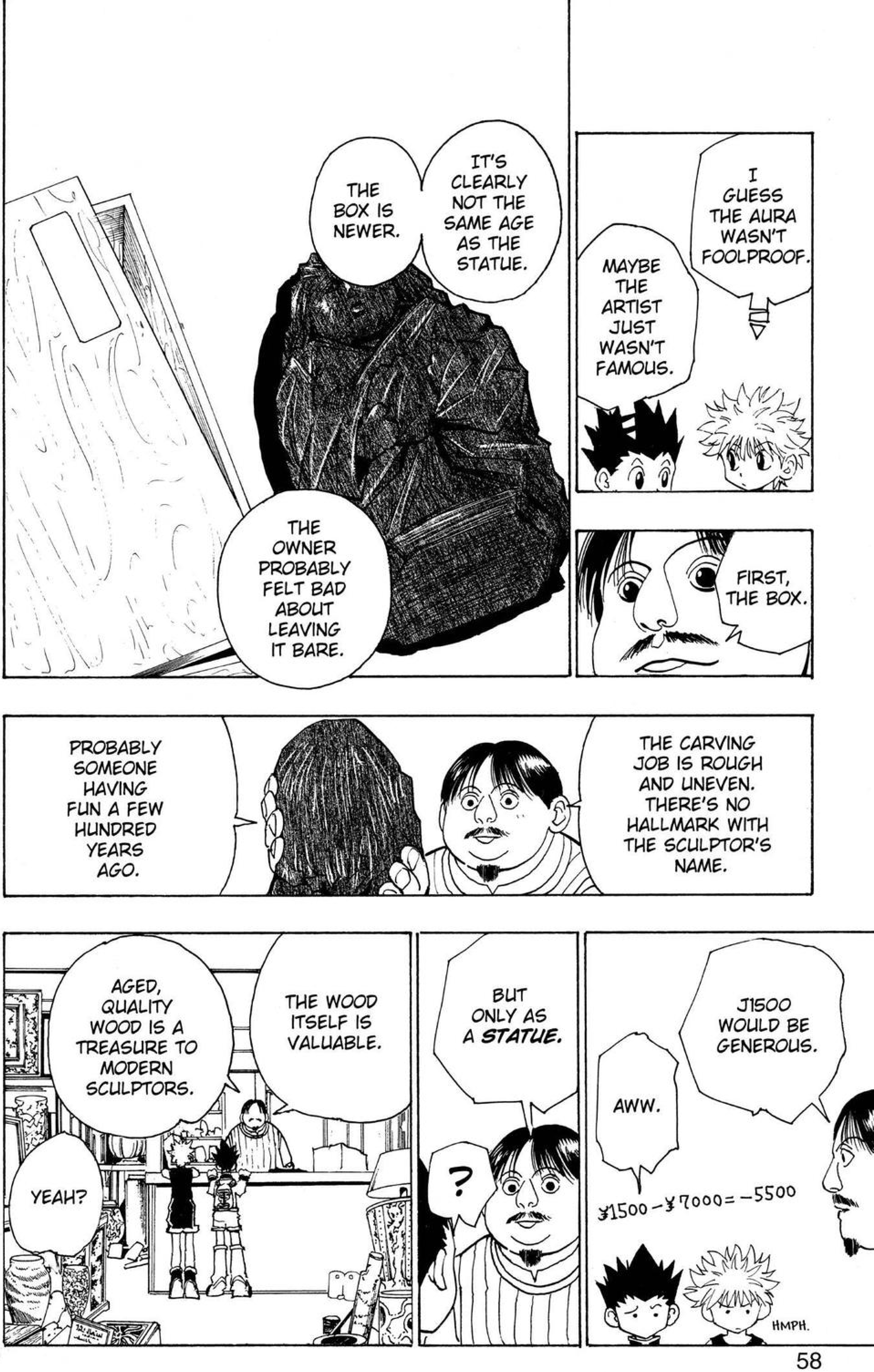

A DEALERS' MARKET: AN AUCTION FOR PROFESSIONALS WHO MAKE THEIR LIVING AS MIDDLEMEN. TO BE IN IT, ALL YOU NEED IS A CERTIFICATE. ANYONE CAN OBTAIN ONE, SO AMATEURS OFTEN TAKE PART.
BIDDING IS BASED SOLELY ON THE ITEMS ON DISPLAY. PARTICIPANTS MUST RELY ON THEIR OWN JUDGMENT AND APPRAISAL SKILLS. LAST-MINUTE ENTRIES OFTEN SHOW UP ON THE DAY OF AN AUCTION. FORGERIES HAVE ALSO BEEN KNOWN TO MAR THE PROCEEDINGS.
THIS IS A BROKERS' MARKET, SO PRICES WILL BE LOWER THAN AT PUBLIC AUCTIONS BECAUSE OF THE PROFIT MARGIN.
YOU CAN STILL GET A HIGHER PRICE HERE THAN AT AN ANTIQUE SHOP.
BUT TOP-QUALITY ITEMS DON'T ALWAYS FETCH THE PRICE THEY SHOULD.
THE BUSINESS IS FULL OF CRAFTY AND OFTEN SHADY CHARACTERS. SURVIVING IN IT ISN'T EASY...
...ESPECIALLY IF YOUR BROKER ISN'T HONEST OR WELL INFORMED.
...
THANKS!

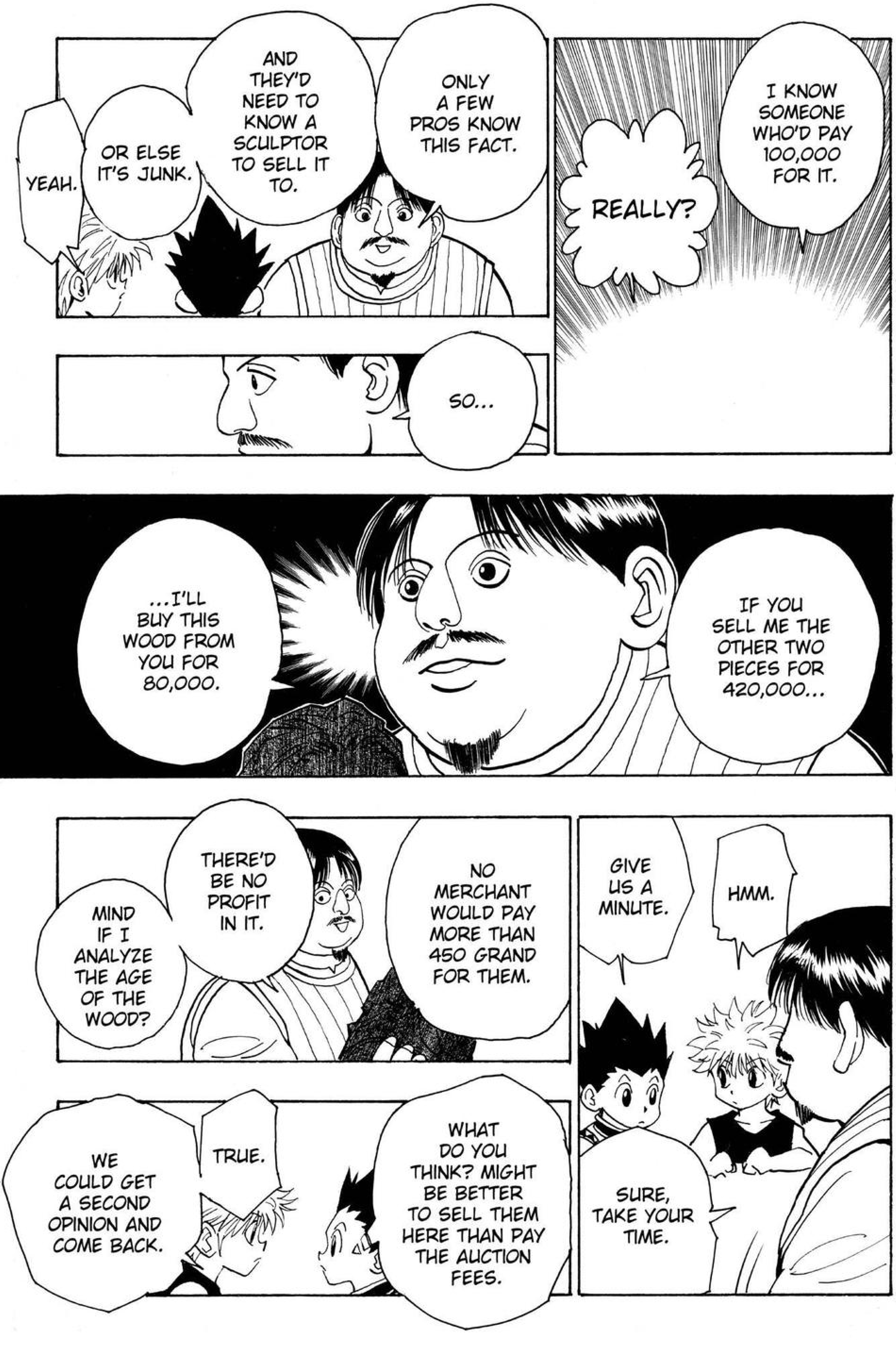

A DEALER'S MARKET... IF THESE ARE GENUINE, THEY SHOULD SELL FOR A LOT!
YEAH. A **NORMAL** AUCTION WOULD BE BETTER, BUT WE DON'T HAVE A CHOICE.
I'D STILL LIKE TO KNOW WHAT THEY'RE WORTH.
YEAH.
LET'S GET HIM TO TAKE A LOOK.
JUST TO CHECK, NOT TO SELL.
B-BMP
B-BMP
WELCOME.

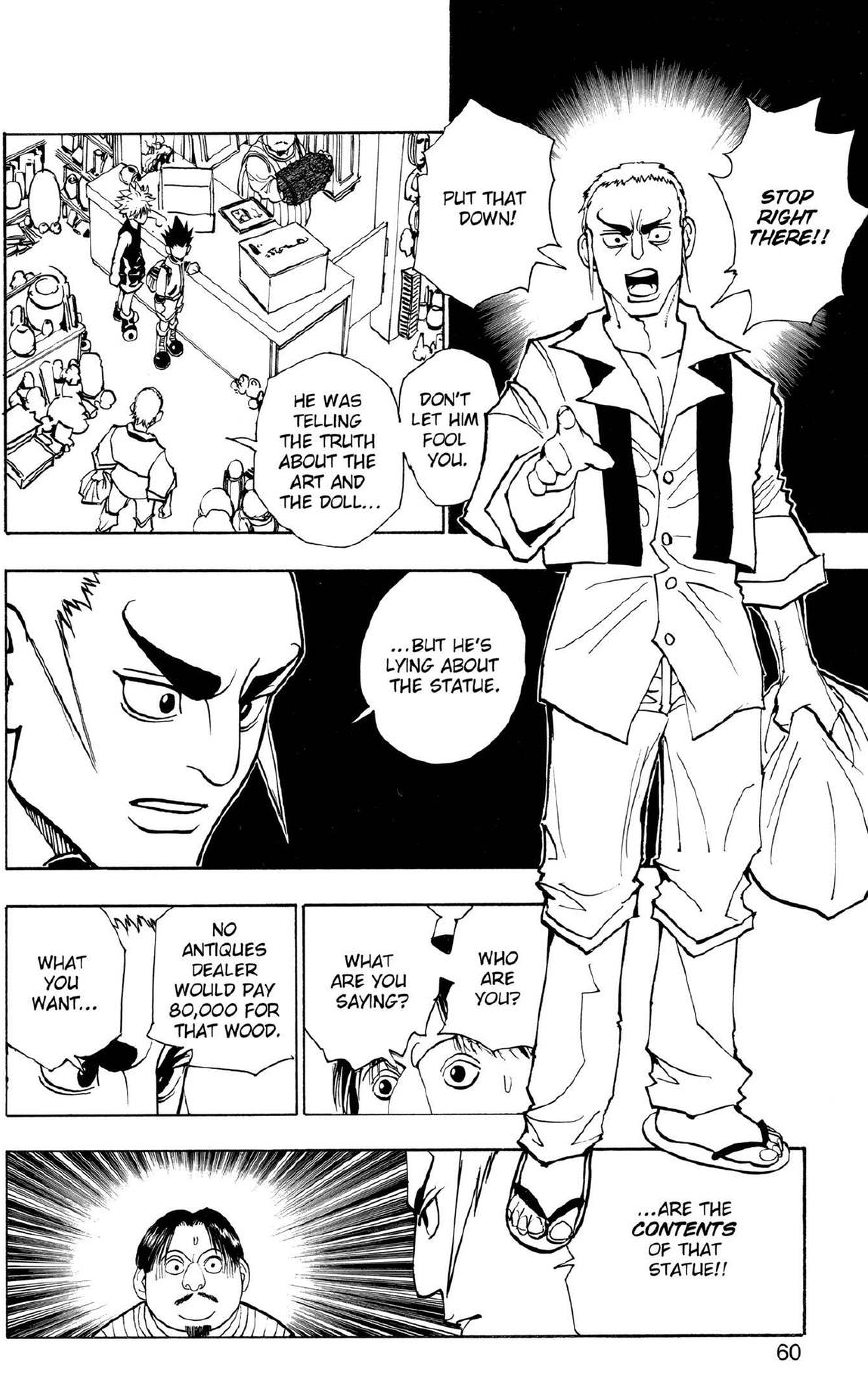

3/50
HEY.
DID YOU BRING THESE FROM HOME?
YEAH, THEY WERE IN AN OLD STOREHOUSE.
MY PARENTS SAID WE COULD SELL 'EM IF WE GOT A GOOD PRICE.
HE'S GOOD.
THEY'RE ALL FINE SPECIMENS!
TAKE THIS ONE.
A SIGNED, LIMITED-EDITION LITHOGRAPH BY MUKATOLINI.
HE ONLY SIGNED THE ONES HE REALLY LIKED.
THIS ONE'S LOW IN THE SERIES, TOO.
3/50

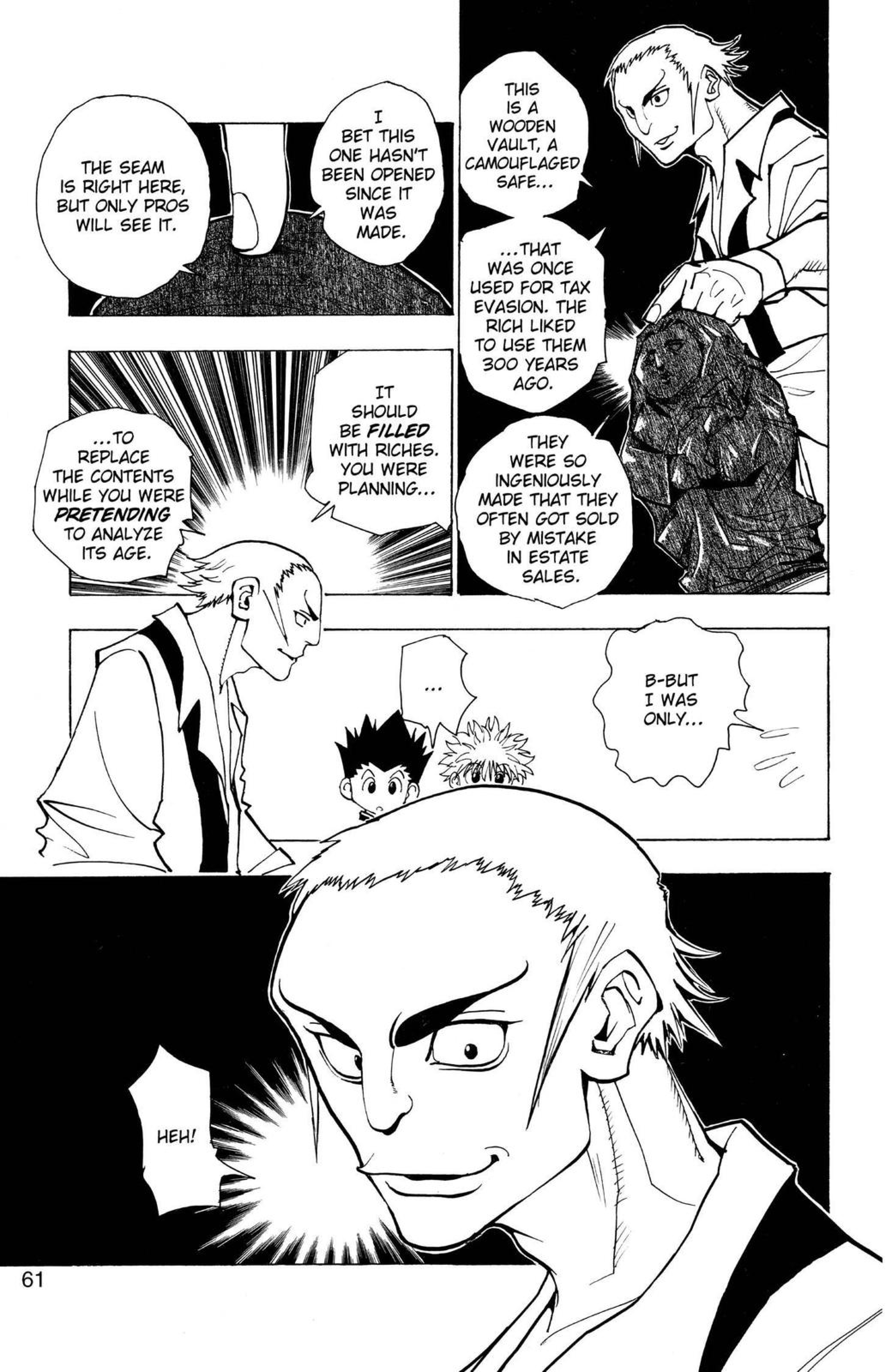
READ THIS WAY

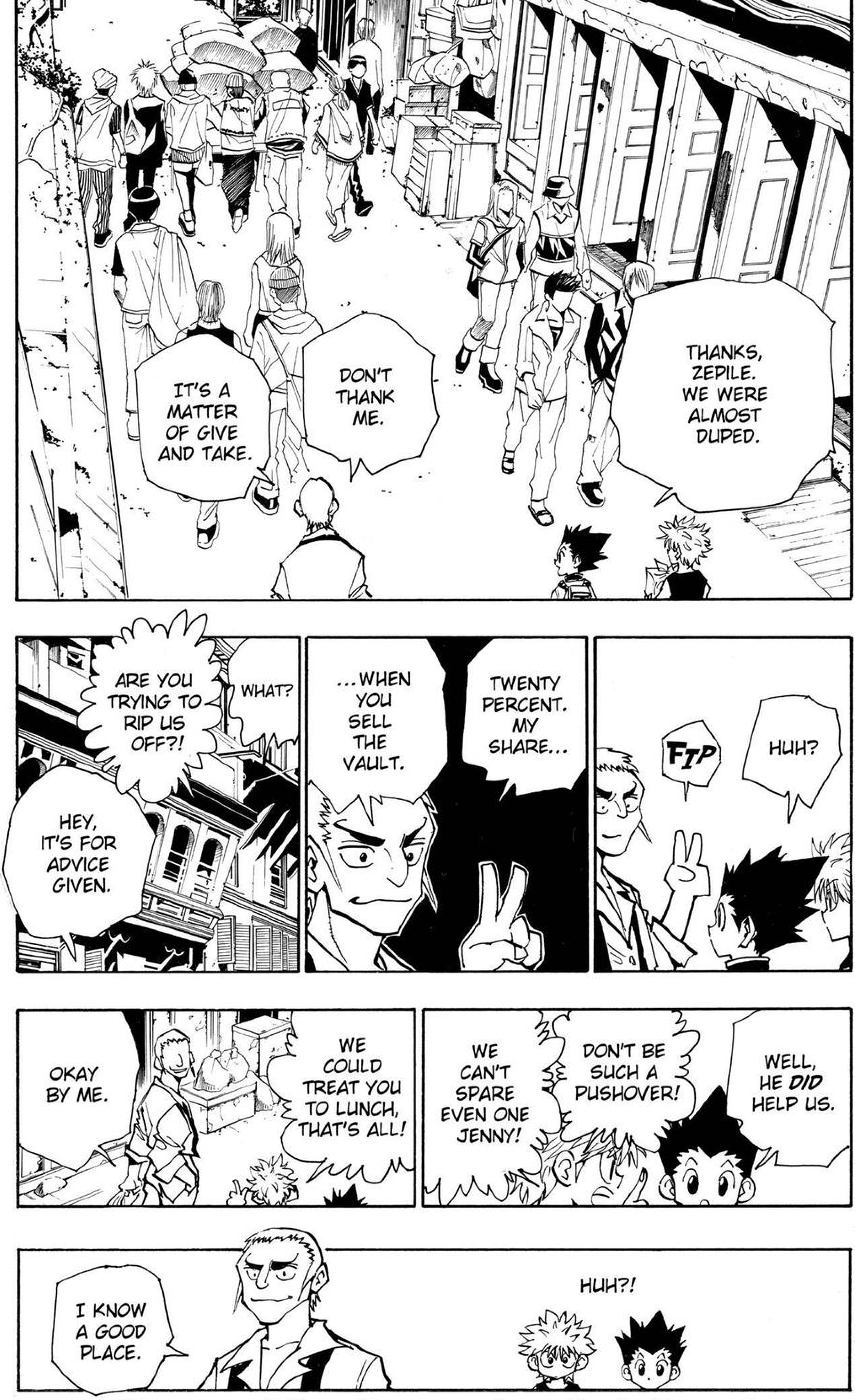

THE AUTOGRAPH LOOKS REAL.
THAT'S WHERE WE SAW THE AURA.
IT GOES FOR AROUND 150,000.
J150000 − J11000 = J139000− PROFIT
WHOA!
AND THIS...
A WONDERFUL HANDMADE ANTIQUE DOLL.
IT'S IN EXCELLENT CONDITION, AND THE ORIGINAL BOX AND ACCESSORIES ARE INTACT, INCREASING THE VALUE.
THIS WOULD GO FOR 300,000.
J300000 − J50500− = J249500− PROFIT
YEAH!!
THIS, ON THE OTHER HAND...
...IS WORTHLESS.


I GUESS THE AURA WASN'T FOOLPROOF.
MAYBE THE ARTIST JUST WASN'T FAMOUS.
FIRST, THE BOX.
IT'S CLEARLY NOT THE SAME AGE AS THE STATUE.
THE BOX IS NEWER.
THE OWNER PROBABLY FELT BAD ABOUT LEAVING IT BARE.
THE CARVING JOB IS ROUGH AND UNEVEN. THERE'S NO HALLMARK WITH THE SCULPTOR'S NAME.
PROBABLY SOMEONE HAVING FUN A FEW HUNDRED YEARS AGO.
J1500 WOULD BE GENEROUS.
AWW.
¥1500 - ¥7000 = -5500
HMPH.
BUT ONLY AS A STATUE.
?
THE WOOD ITSELF IS VALUABLE.
AGED, QUALITY WOOD IS A TREASURE TO MODERN SCULPTORS.
YEAH?


I KNOW SOMEONE WHO'D PAY 100,000 FOR IT.
REALLY?
ONLY A FEW PROS KNOW THIS FACT.
AND THEY'D NEED TO KNOW A SCULPTOR TO SELL IT TO.
OR ELSE IT'S JUNK.
YEAH.
SO...
IF YOU SELL ME THE OTHER TWO PIECES FOR 420,000...
...I'LL BUY THIS WOOD FROM YOU FOR 80,000.
HMM.
GIVE US A MINUTE.
SURE, TAKE YOUR TIME.
NO MERCHANT WOULD PAY MORE THAN 450 GRAND FOR THEM.
THERE'D BE NO PROFIT IN IT.
MIND IF I ANALYZE THE AGE OF THE WOOD?
WHAT DO YOU THINK? MIGHT BE BETTER TO SELL THEM HERE THAN PAY THE AUCTION FEES.
TRUE.
WE COULD GET A SECOND OPINION AND COME BACK.


STOP RIGHT THERE!!
PUT THAT DOWN!
DON'T LET HIM FOOL YOU.
HE WAS TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT THE ART AND THE DOLL...
...BUT HE'S LYING ABOUT THE STATUE.
WHO ARE YOU?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
NO ANTIQUES DEALER WOULD PAY 80,000 FOR THAT WOOD.
WHAT YOU WANT...
...ARE THE ***CONTENTS*** OF THAT STATUE!!

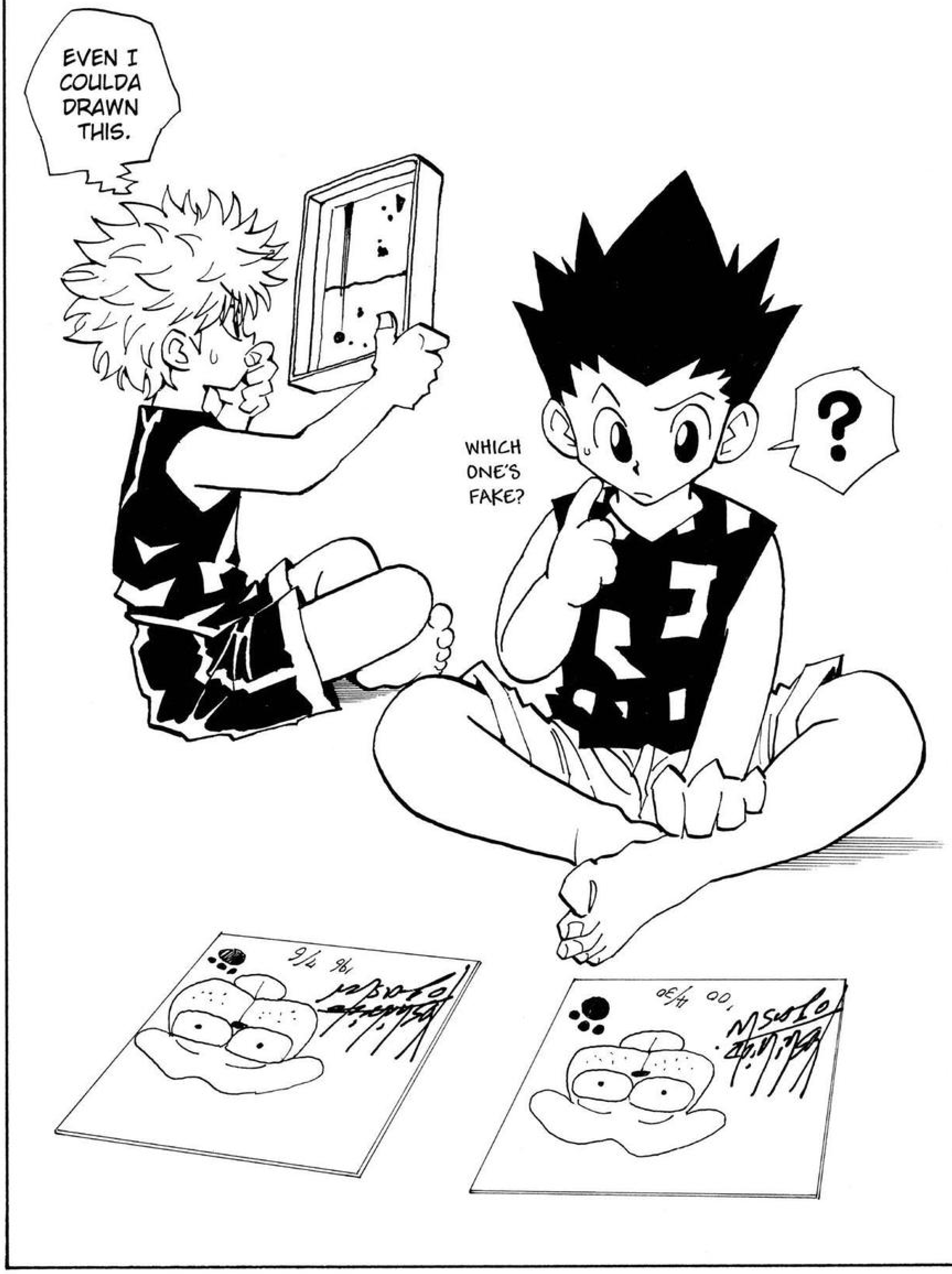

THIS IS A WOODEN VAULT, A CAMOUFLAGED SAFE...
...THAT WAS ONCE USED FOR TAX EVASION. THE RICH LIKED TO USE THEM 300 YEARS AGO.
THEY WERE SO INGENIOUSLY MADE THAT THEY OFTEN GOT SOLD BY MISTAKE IN ESTATE SALES.
I BET THIS ONE HASN'T BEEN OPENED SINCE IT WAS MADE.
THE SEAM IS RIGHT HERE, BUT ONLY PROS WILL SEE IT.
IT SHOULD BE ***FILLED*** WITH RICHES. YOU WERE PLANNING...
...TO REPLACE THE CONTENTS WHILE YOU WERE ***PRETENDING*** TO ANALYZE ITS AGE.
B-BUT I WAS ONLY...
...
HEH!

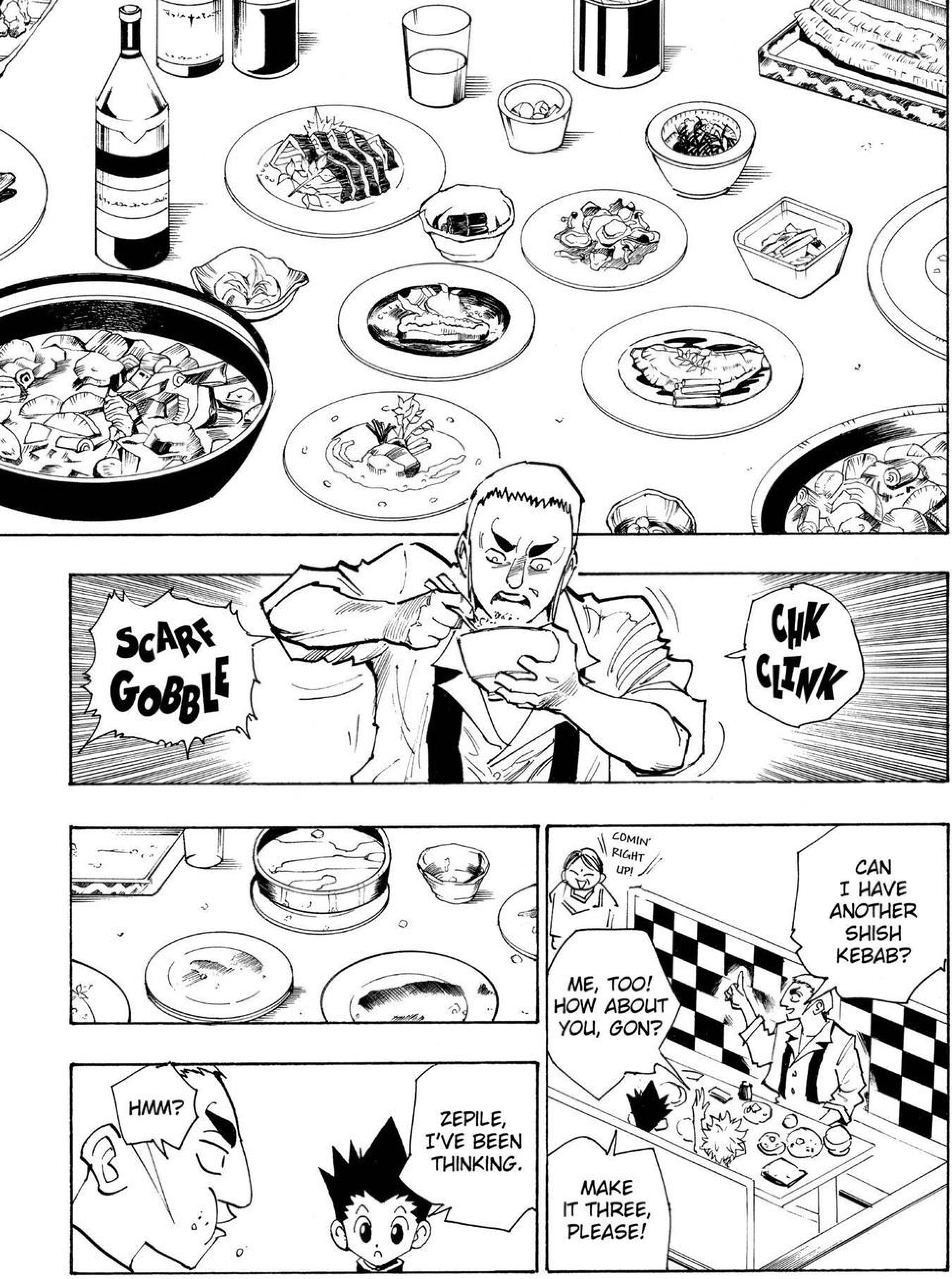

THANKS, ZEPILE. WE WERE ALMOST DUPED.
DON'T THANK ME.
IT'S A MATTER OF GIVE AND TAKE.
HUH?
FIP
TWENTY PERCENT. MY SHARE...
...WHEN YOU SELL THE VAULT.
WHAT?
ARE YOU TRYING TO RIP US OFF?!
HEY, IT'S FOR ADVICE GIVEN.
WELL, HE *DID* HELP US.
DON'T BE SUCH A PUSHOVER!
WE CAN'T SPARE EVEN ONE JENNY!
WE COULD TREAT YOU TO LUNCH, THAT'S ALL!
OKAY BY ME.
HUH?!
I KNOW A GOOD PLACE.

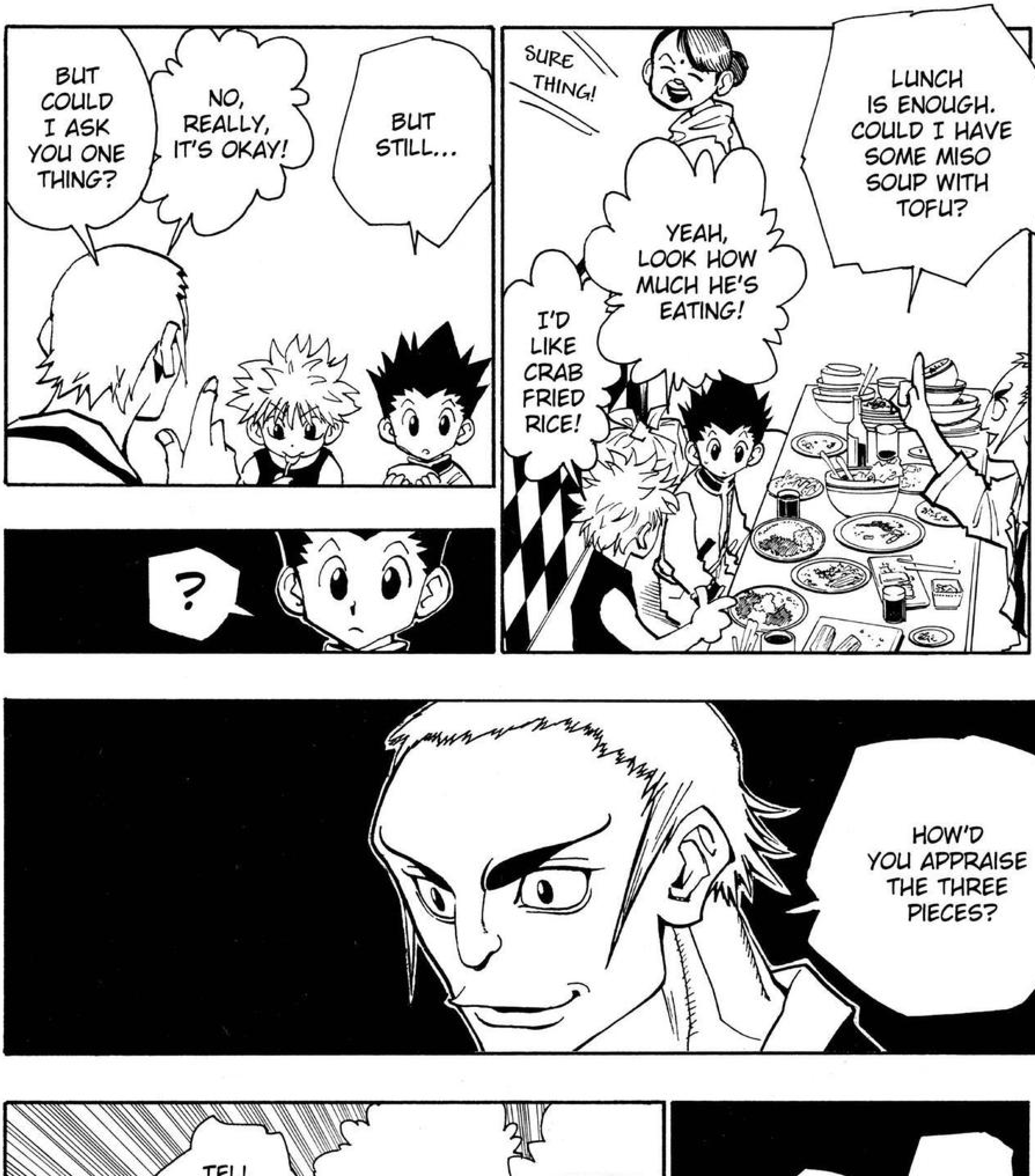
Chapter 87 September 3rd: Part 3

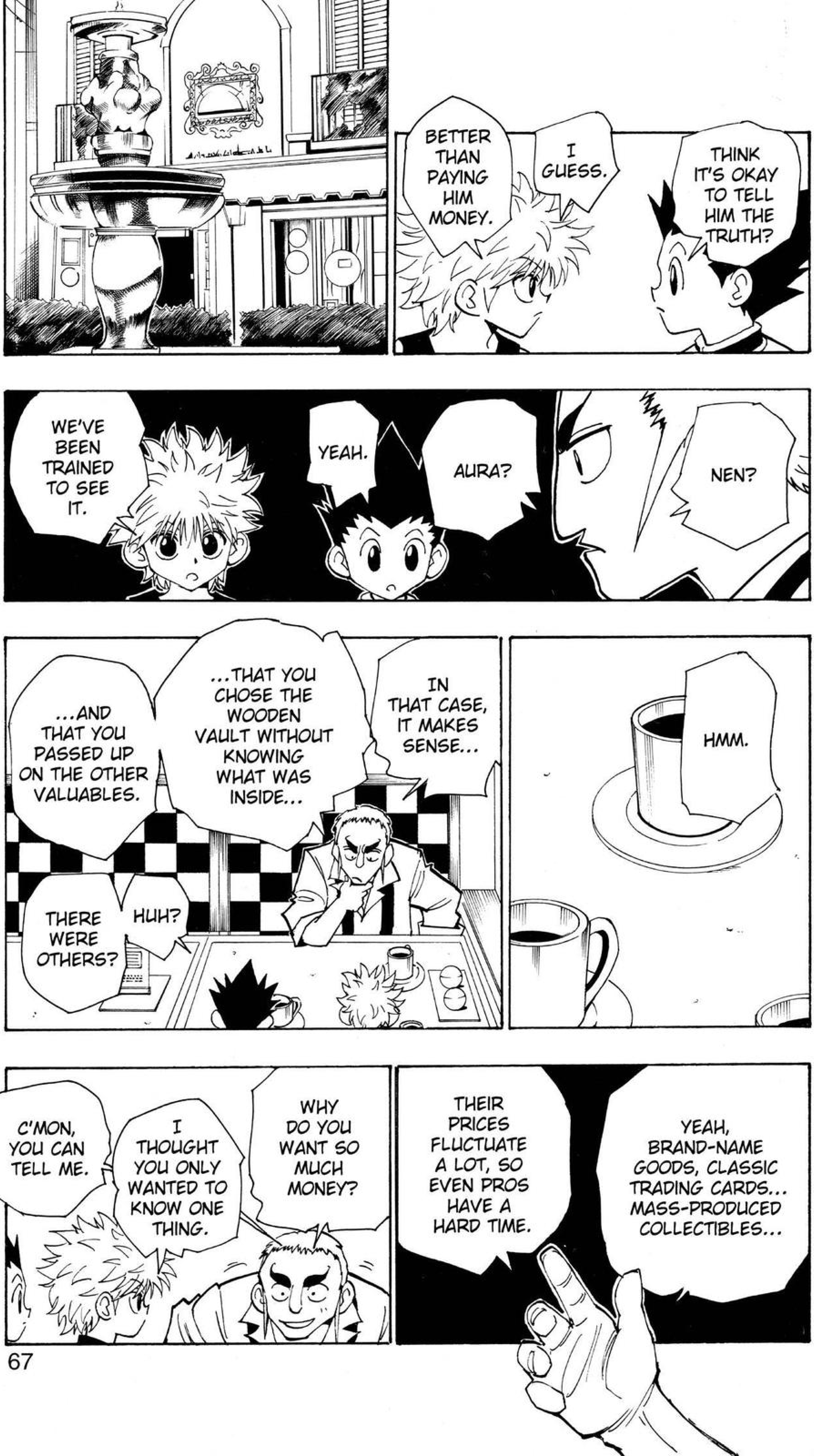
Chapter 87

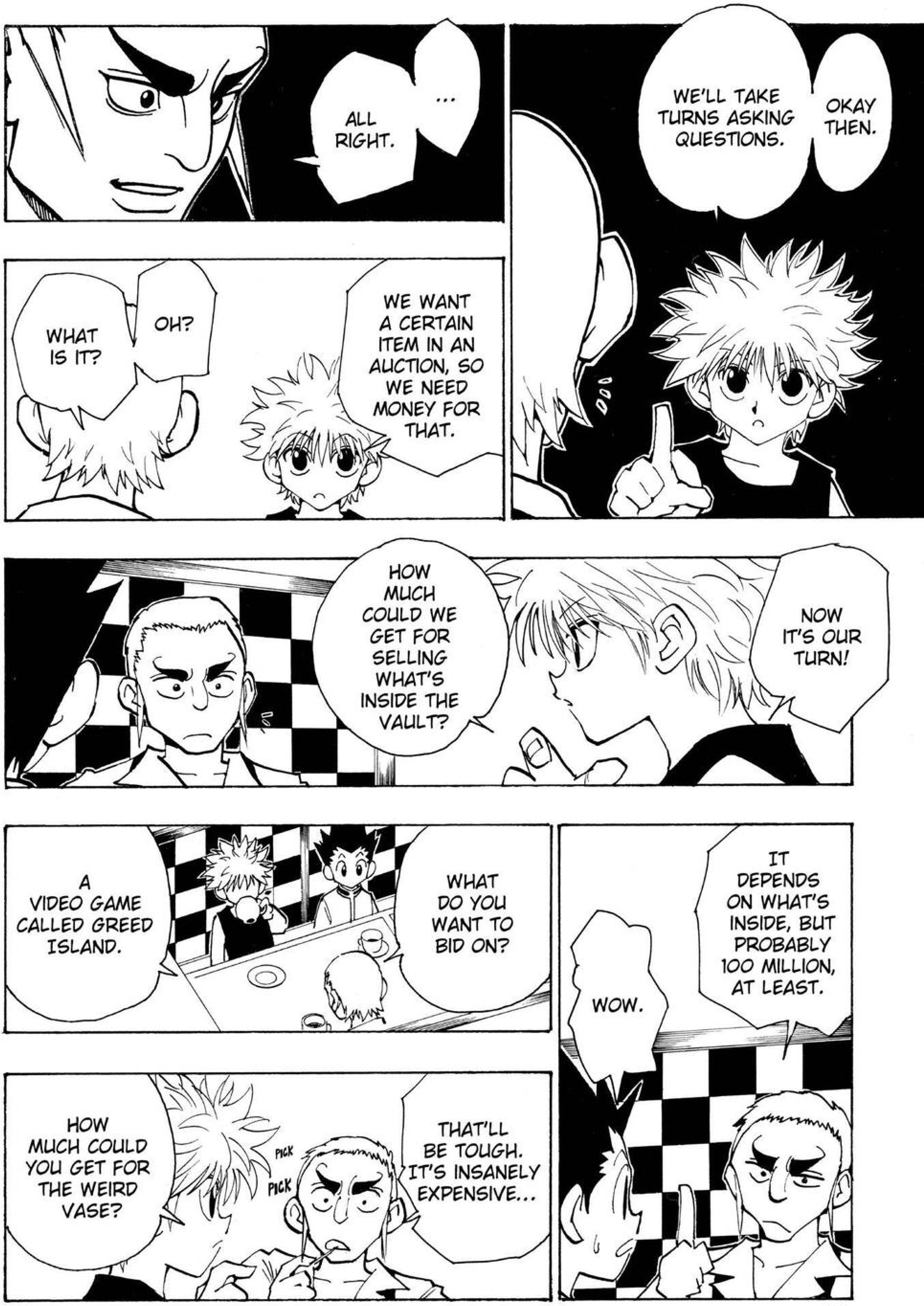
September 3rd: Part 3

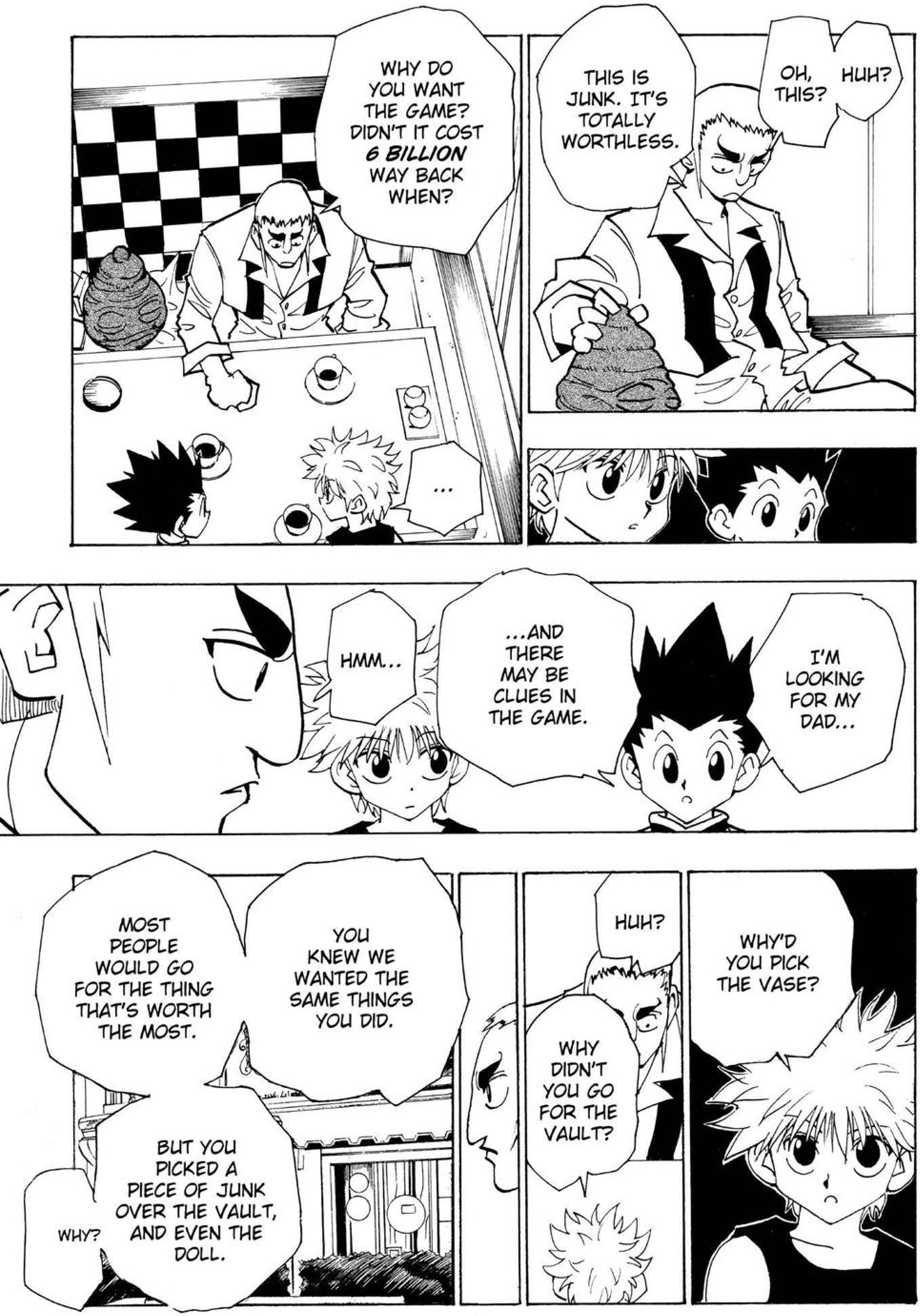

EVEN I COULDA DRAWN THIS.
?
WHICH ONE'S FAKE?

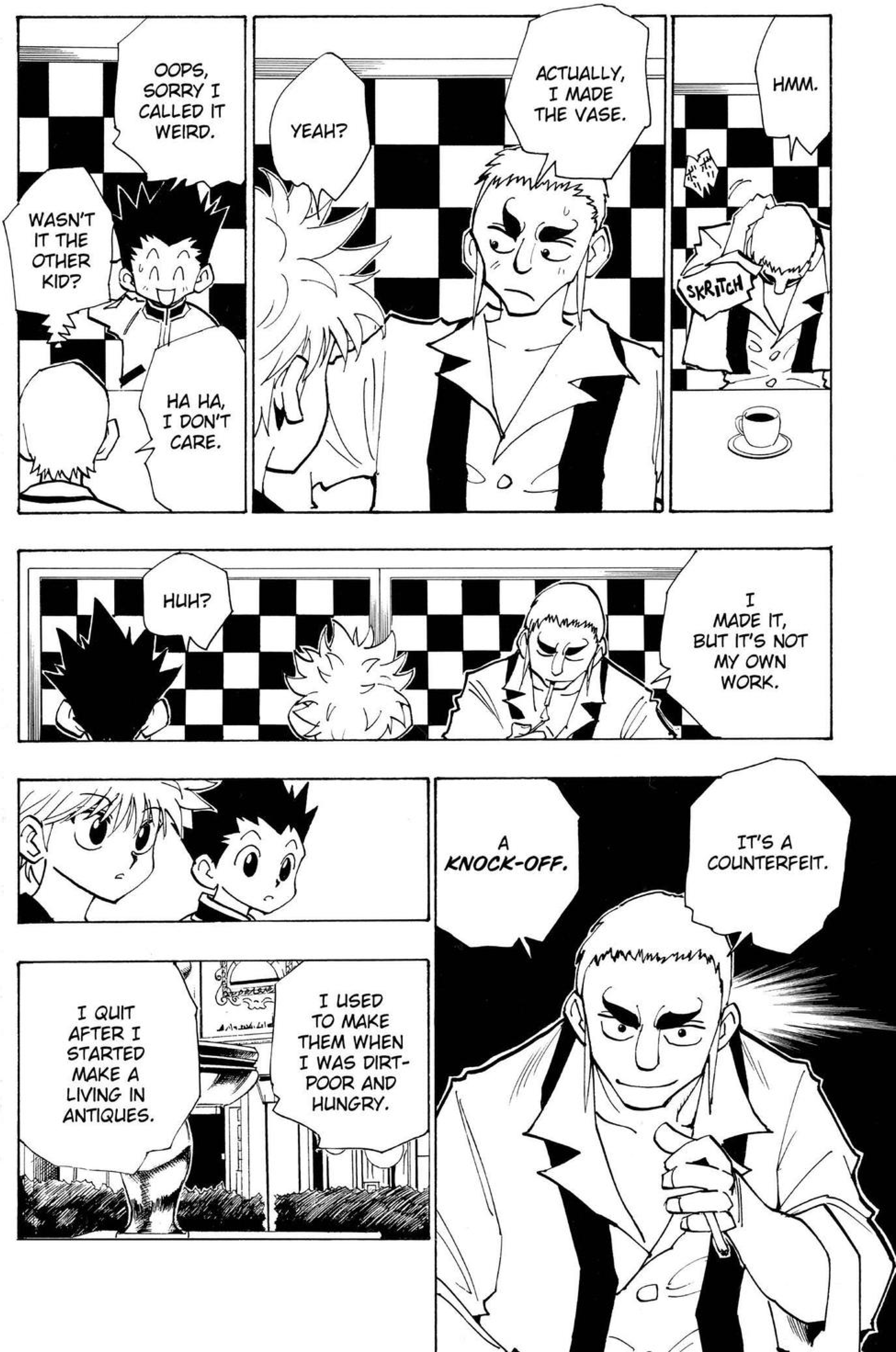

SCARF GOBBLE
CHK CLINK
CAN I HAVE ANOTHER SHISH KEBAB?
ME, TOO! HOW ABOUT YOU, GON?
MAKE IT THREE, PLEASE!
COMIN' RIGHT UP!
ZEPILE, I'VE BEEN THINKING.
HMM?
I FEEL BAD. WE SHOULD PAY YOU A COMMISSION.
AW, GIVE IT UP!

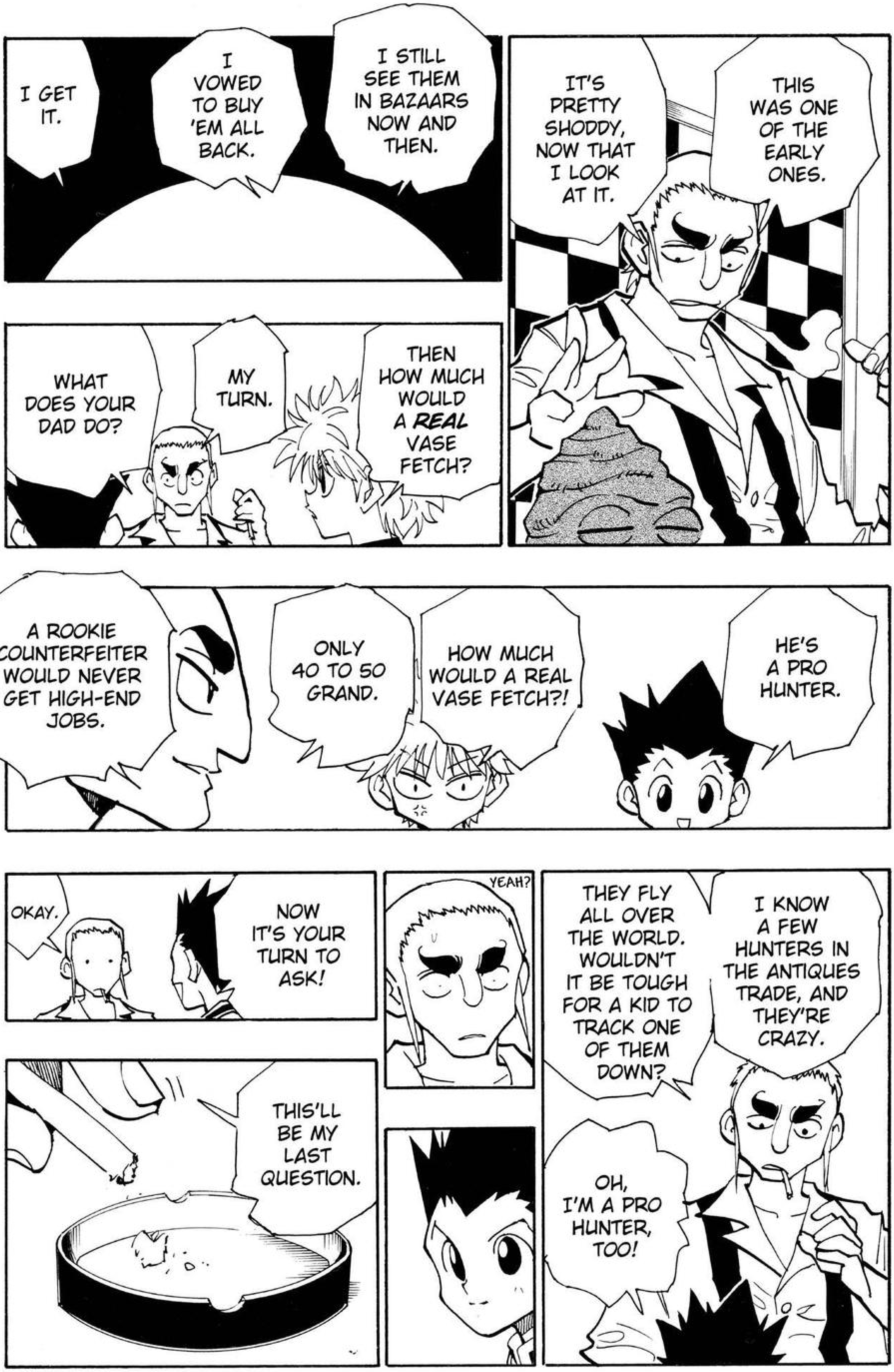

LUNCH IS ENOUGH. COULD I HAVE SOME MISO SOUP WITH TOFU?
YEAH, LOOK HOW MUCH HE'S EATING!
I'D LIKE CRAB FRIED RICE!
SURE THING!
BUT STILL...
NO, REALLY, IT'S OKAY!
BUT COULD I ASK YOU ONE THING?
?
HOW'D YOU APPRAISE THE THREE PIECES?
APPRAISE?
WE DIDN'T.
ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
HOW'D YOU PICK 'EM OUT?!
TELL ME IT WASN'T RANDOM!
HOW DID YOU DECIDE ON THOSE THREE THINGS FROM AMONG ALL THOSE VENDORS?!

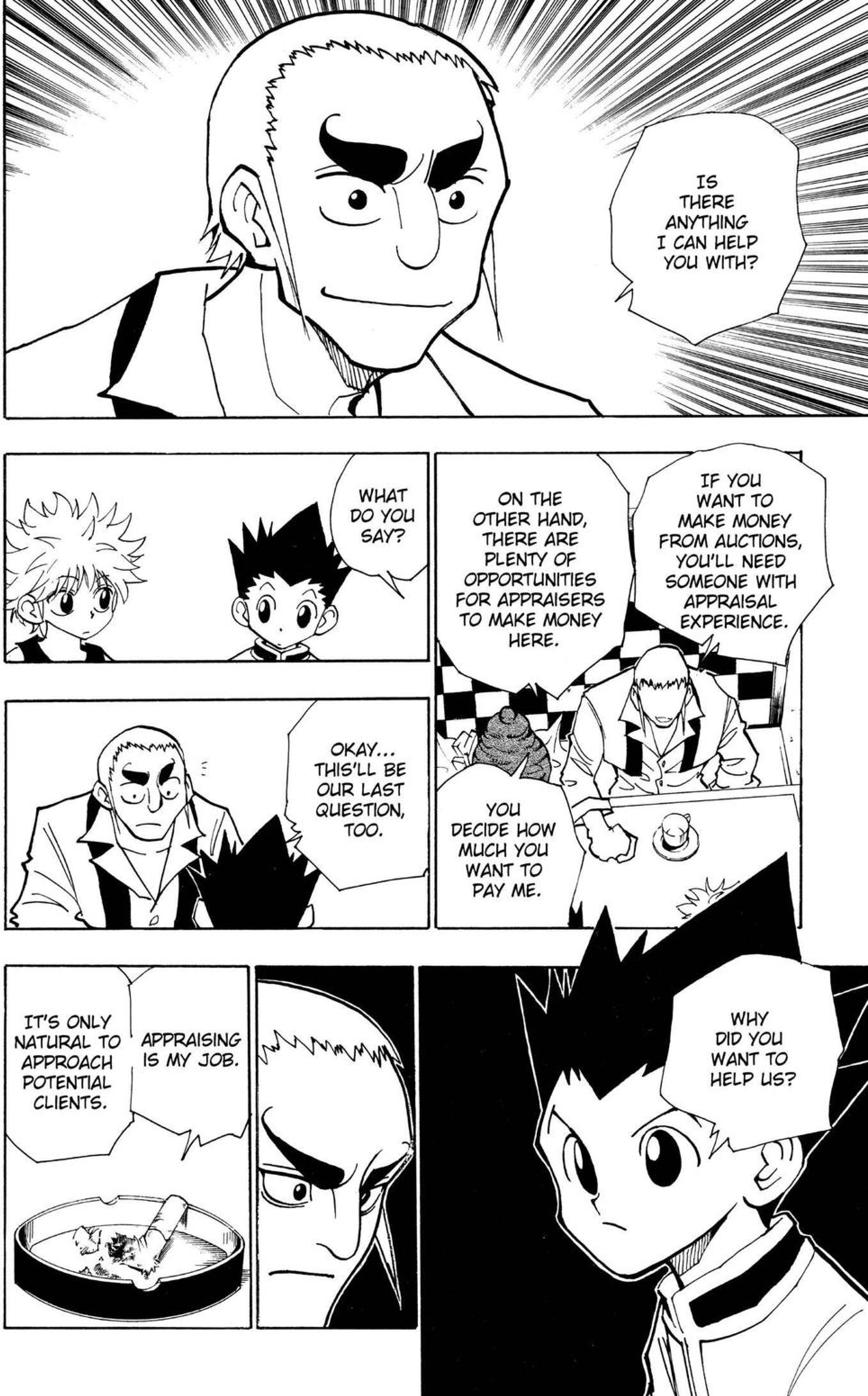

THINK IT'S OKAY TO TELL HIM THE TRUTH?
I GUESS.
BETTER THAN PAYING HIM MONEY.
NEN?
AURA?
YEAH.
WE'VE BEEN TRAINED TO SEE IT.
HMM.
IN THAT CASE, IT MAKES SENSE...
...THAT YOU CHOSE THE WOODEN VAULT WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT WAS INSIDE...
...AND THAT YOU PASSED UP ON THE OTHER VALUABLES.
HUH?
THERE WERE OTHERS?
YEAH, BRAND-NAME GOODS, CLASSIC TRADING CARDS... MASS-PRODUCED COLLECTIBLES...
THEIR PRICES FLUCTUATE A LOT, SO EVEN PROS HAVE A HARD TIME.
WHY DO YOU WANT SO MUCH MONEY?
I THOUGHT YOU ONLY WANTED TO KNOW ONE THING.
C'MON, YOU CAN TELL ME.


OKAY THEN.
WE'LL TAKE TURNS ASKING QUESTIONS.
...
ALL RIGHT.
WE WANT A CERTAIN ITEM IN AN AUCTION, SO WE NEED MONEY FOR THAT.
OH?
WHAT IS IT?
NOW IT'S OUR TURN!
HOW MUCH COULD WE GET FOR SELLING WHAT'S INSIDE THE VAULT?
IT DEPENDS ON WHAT'S INSIDE, BUT PROBABLY 100 MILLION, AT LEAST.
WOW.
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BID ON?
A VIDEO GAME CALLED GREED ISLAND.
THAT'LL BE TOUGH. IT'S INSANELY EXPENSIVE...
PICK
PICK
HOW MUCH COULD YOU GET FOR THE WEIRD VASE?

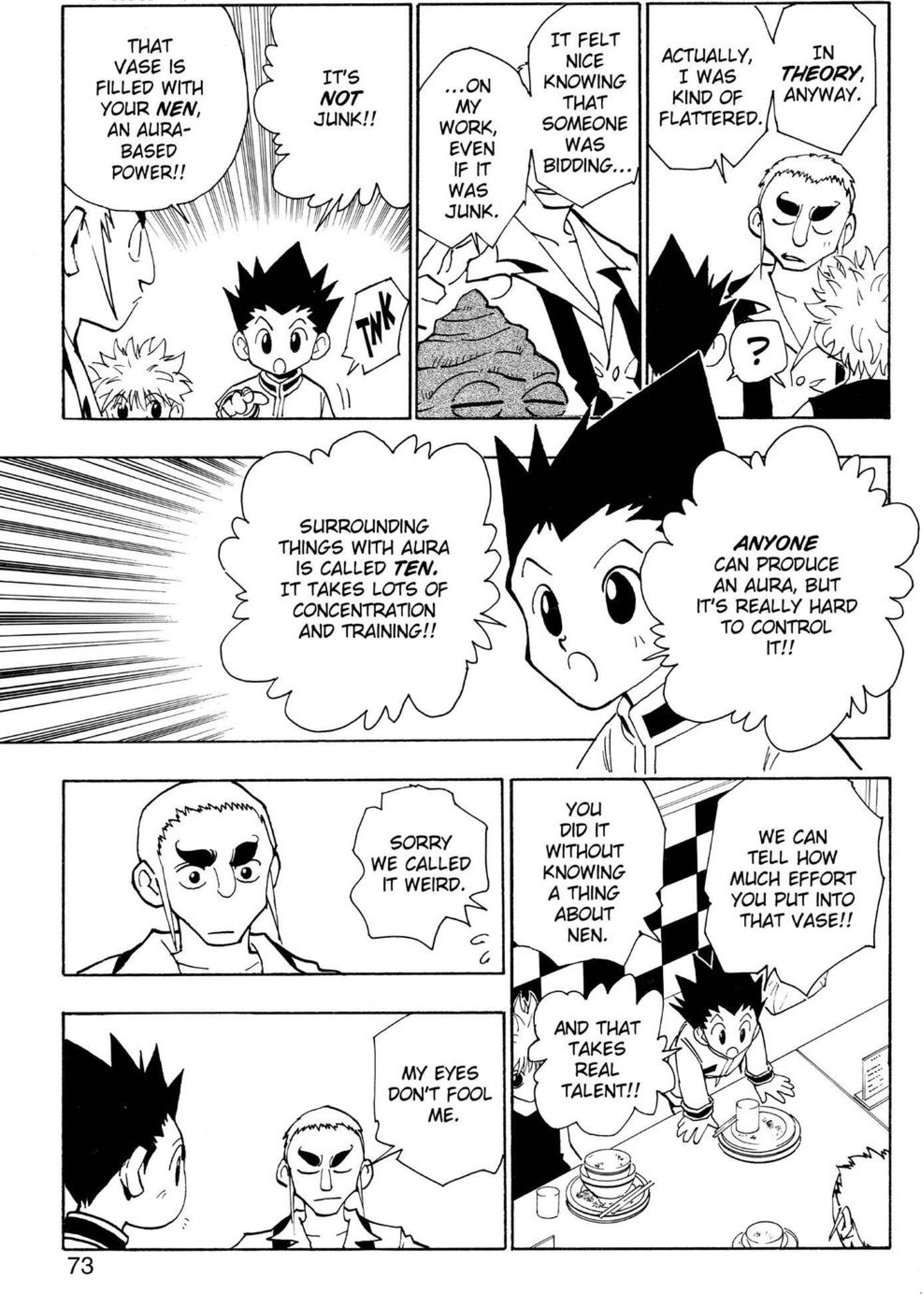

HUH?
OH, THIS?
THIS IS JUNK. IT'S TOTALLY WORTHLESS.
WHY DO YOU WANT THE GAME? DIDN'T IT COST **6 BILLION** WAY BACK WHEN?
...
I'M LOOKING FOR MY DAD...
...AND THERE MAY BE CLUES IN THE GAME.
HMM...
WHY'D YOU PICK THE VASE?
HUH?
WHY DIDN'T YOU GO FOR THE VAULT?
YOU KNEW WE WANTED THE SAME THINGS YOU DID.
MOST PEOPLE WOULD GO FOR THE THING THAT'S WORTH THE MOST.
BUT YOU PICKED A PIECE OF JUNK OVER THE VAULT, AND EVEN THE DOLL.
WHY?

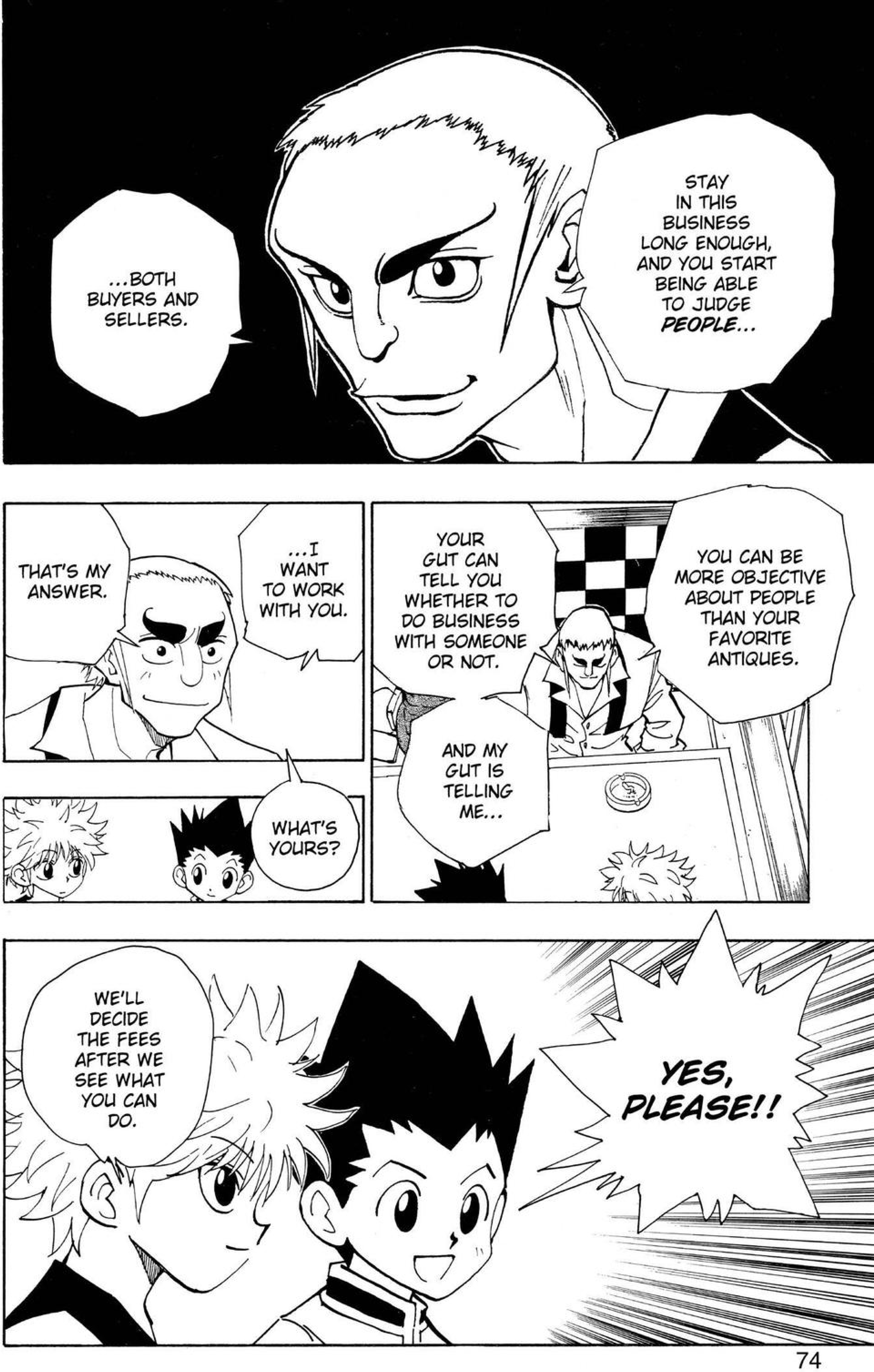

OOPS, SORRY I CALLED IT WEIRD.
WASN'T IT THE OTHER KID?
HA HA, I DON'T CARE.
YEAH?
ACTUALLY, I MADE THE VASE.
HMM.
SKRITCH
HUH?
I MADE IT, BUT IT'S NOT MY OWN WORK.
IT'S A COUNTERFEIT.
A KNOCK-OFF.
I USED TO MAKE THEM WHEN I WAS DIRT-POOR AND HUNGRY.
I QUIT AFTER I STARTED MAKE A LIVING IN ANTIQUES.


THIS WAS ONE OF THE EARLY ONES.
IT'S PRETTY SHODDY, NOW THAT I LOOK AT IT.
I STILL SEE THEM IN BAZAARS NOW AND THEN.
I VOWED TO BUY 'EM ALL BACK.
I GET IT.
THEN HOW MUCH WOULD A ***REAL*** VASE FETCH?
MY TURN.
WHAT DOES YOUR DAD DO?
HE'S A PRO HUNTER.
HOW MUCH WOULD A REAL VASE FETCH?!
ONLY 40 TO 50 GRAND.
A ROOKIE COUNTERFEITER WOULD NEVER GET HIGH-END JOBS.
I KNOW A FEW HUNTERS IN THE ANTIQUES TRADE, AND THEY'RE CRAZY.
THEY FLY ALL OVER THE WORLD. WOULDN'T IT BE TOUGH FOR A KID TO TRACK ONE OF THEM DOWN?
OH, I'M A PRO HUNTER, TOO!
YEAH?
NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO ASK!
OKAY.
THIS'LL BE MY LAST QUESTION.

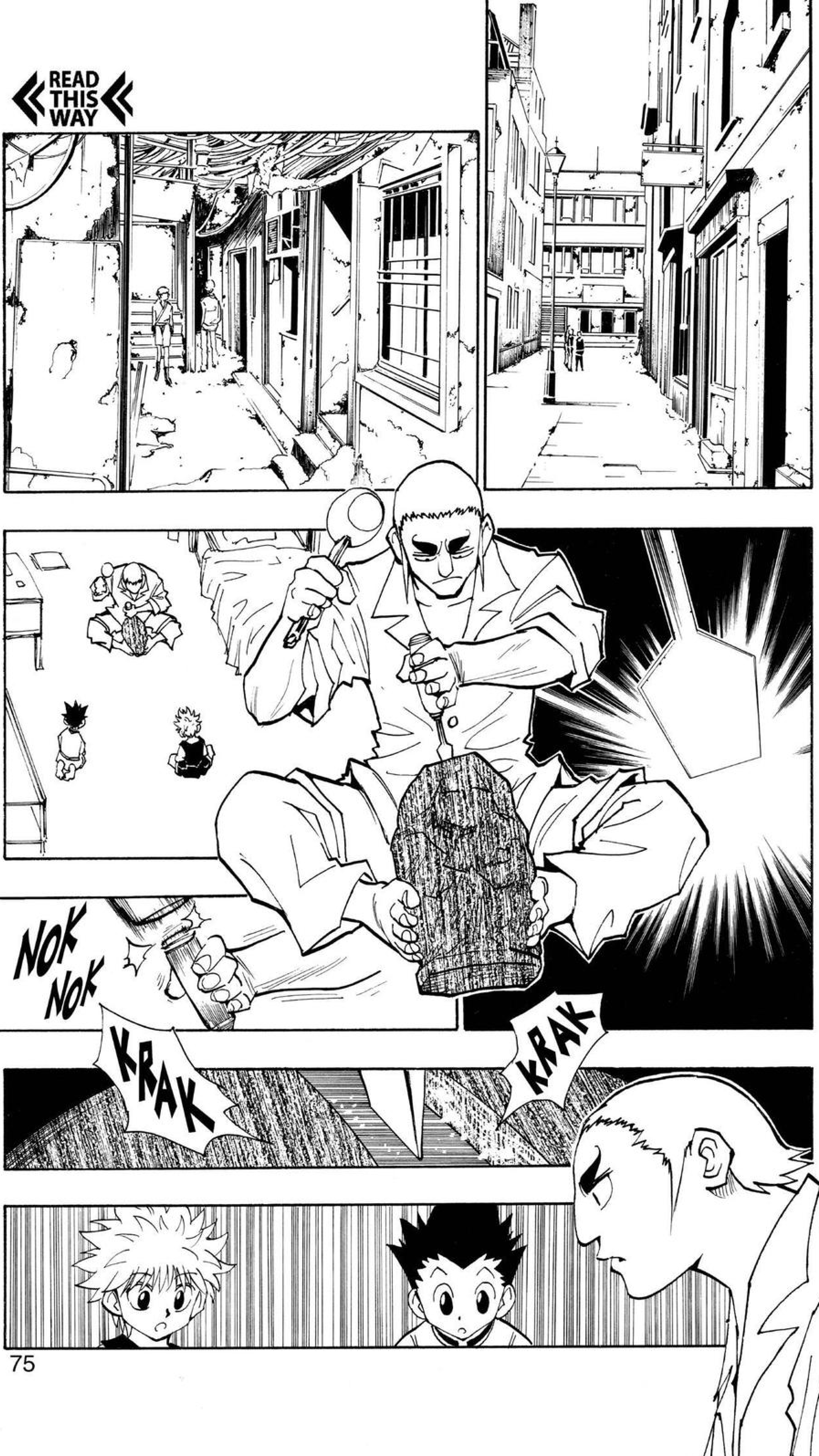

IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN HELP YOU WITH?
IF YOU WANT TO MAKE MONEY FROM AUCTIONS, YOU'LL NEED SOMEONE WITH APPRAISAL EXPERIENCE.
ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE ARE PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR APPRAISERS TO MAKE MONEY HERE.
YOU DECIDE HOW MUCH YOU WANT TO PAY ME.
WHAT DO YOU SAY?
OKAY... THIS'LL BE OUR LAST QUESTION, TOO.
WHY DID YOU WANT TO HELP US?
APPRAISING IS MY JOB.
IT'S ONLY NATURAL TO APPROACH POTENTIAL CLIENTS.

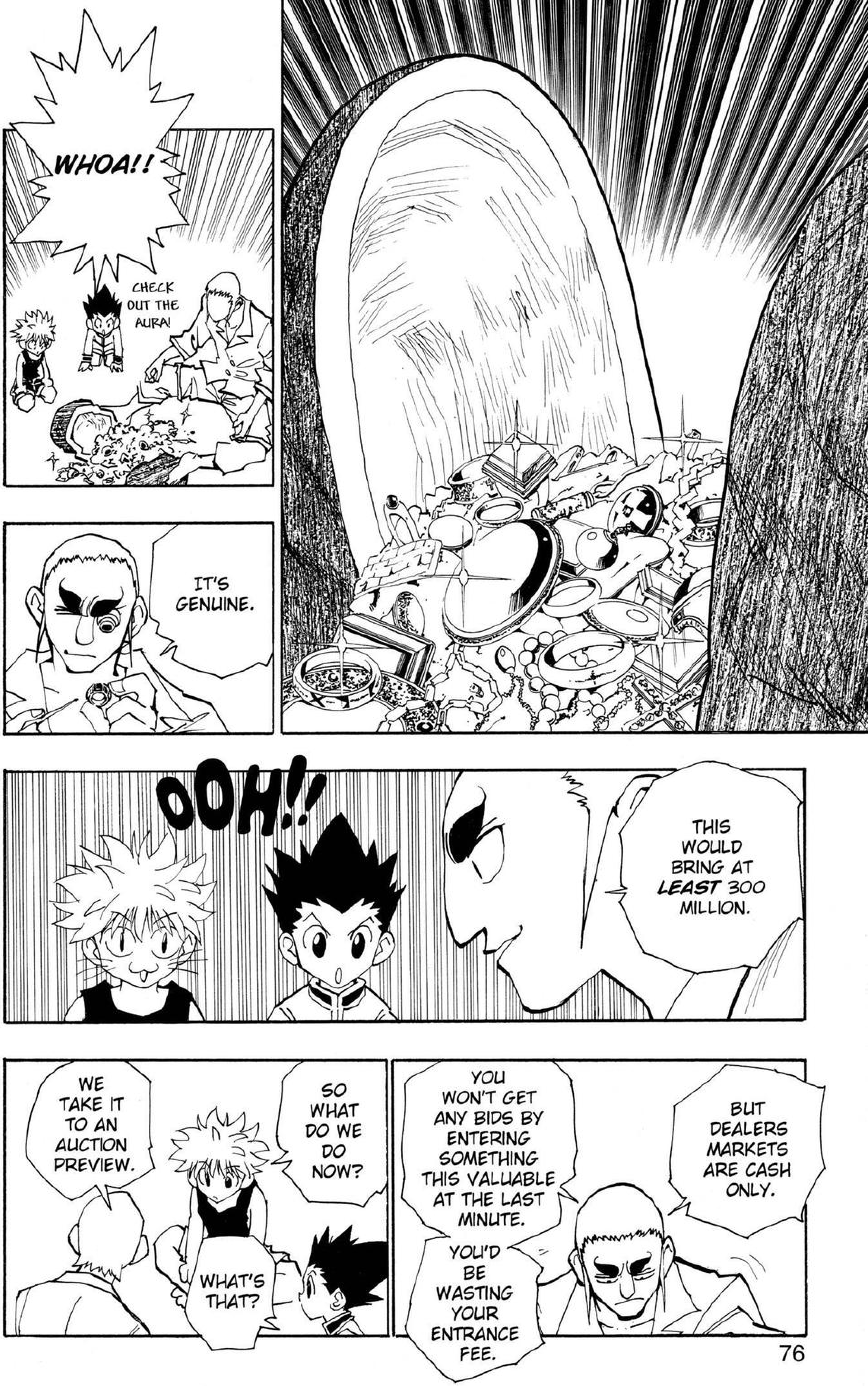
READ THIS WAY


ACTUALLY, I WAS KIND OF FLATTERED.
IN *THEORY*, ANYWAY.
?
IT FELT NICE KNOWING THAT SOMEONE WAS BIDDING...
...ON MY WORK, EVEN IF IT WAS JUNK.
IT'S *NOT* JUNK!!
THAT VASE IS FILLED WITH YOUR *NEN*, AN AURA-BASED POWER!!
TNK
ANYONE CAN PRODUCE AN AURA, BUT IT'S REALLY HARD TO CONTROL IT!!
SURROUNDING THINGS WITH AURA IS CALLED *TEN.* IT TAKES LOTS OF CONCENTRATION AND TRAINING!!
WE CAN TELL HOW MUCH EFFORT YOU PUT INTO THAT VASE!!
YOU DID IT WITHOUT KNOWING A THING ABOUT NEN.
AND THAT TAKES REAL TALENT!!
SORRY WE CALLED IT WEIRD.
MY EYES DON'T FOOL ME.

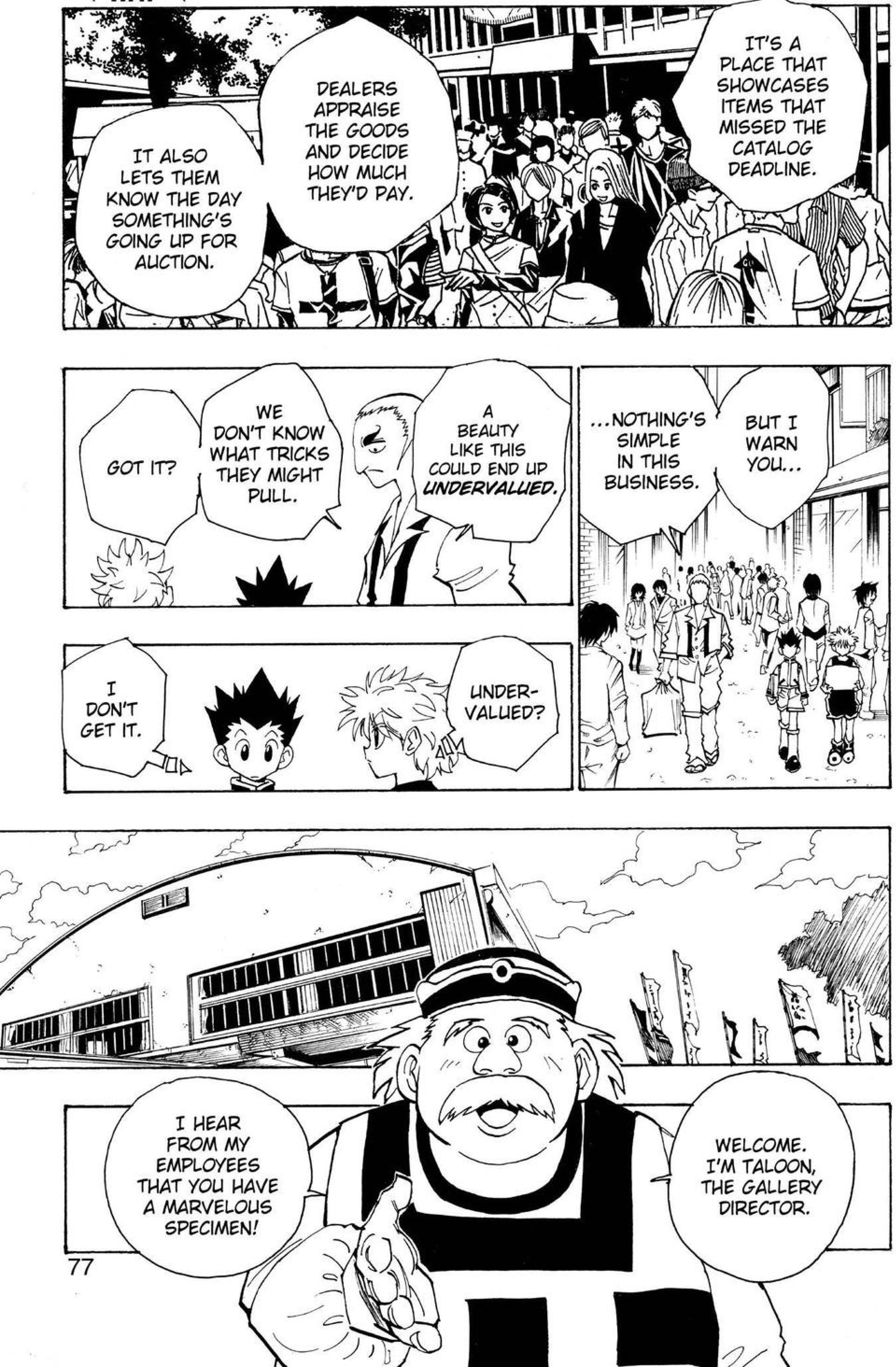

STAY IN THIS BUSINESS LONG ENOUGH, AND YOU START BEING ABLE TO JUDGE *PEOPLE*...
...BOTH BUYERS AND SELLERS.
YOU CAN BE MORE OBJECTIVE ABOUT PEOPLE THAN YOUR FAVORITE ANTIQUES.
YOUR GUT CAN TELL YOU WHETHER TO DO BUSINESS WITH SOMEONE OR NOT.
AND MY GUT IS TELLING ME...
...I WANT TO WORK WITH YOU.
THAT'S MY ANSWER.
WHAT'S YOURS?
YES, PLEASE!!
WE'LL DECIDE THE FEES AFTER WE SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO.

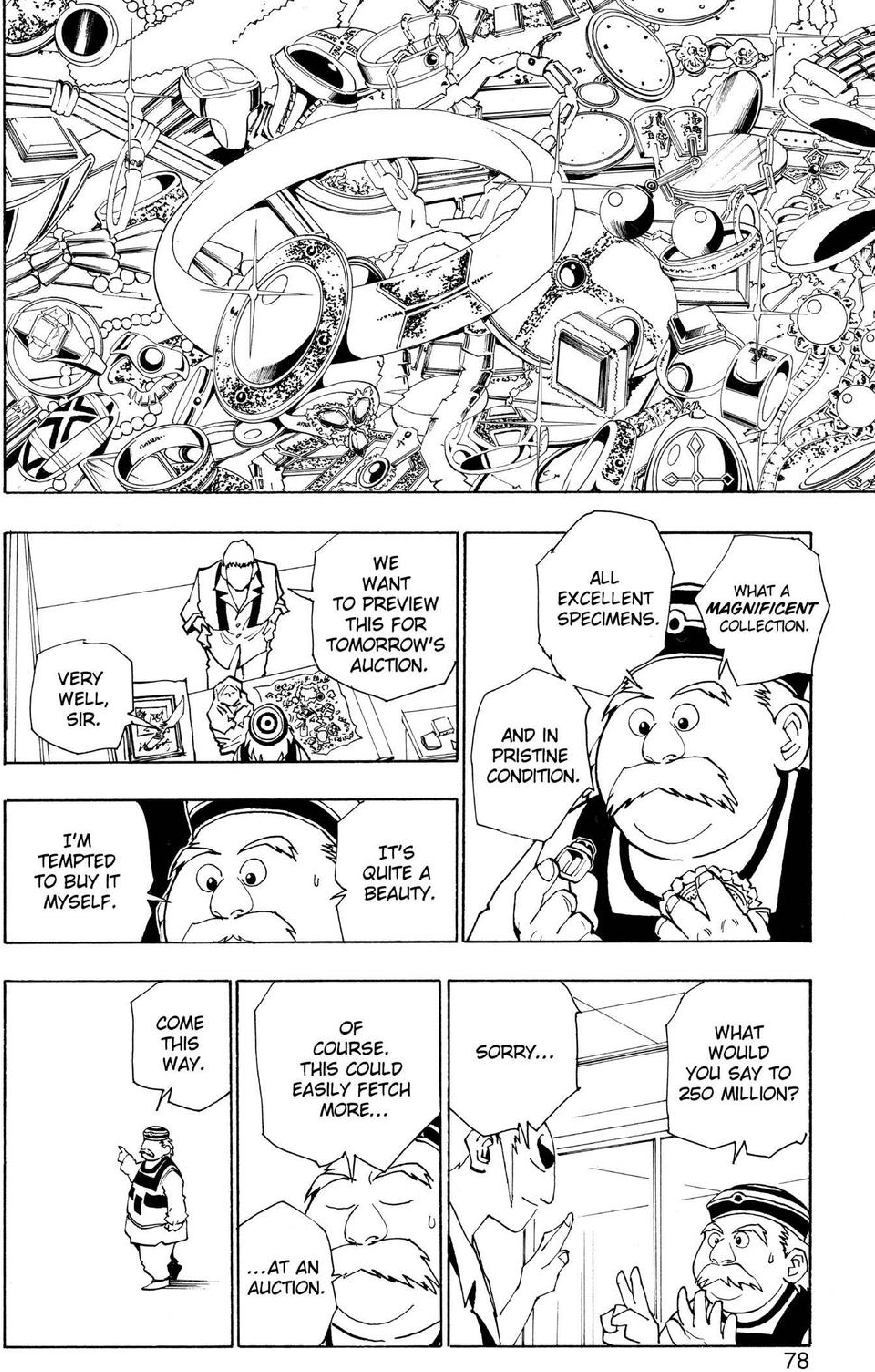
READ THIS WAY


NOK NOK
KRAK
KRAK

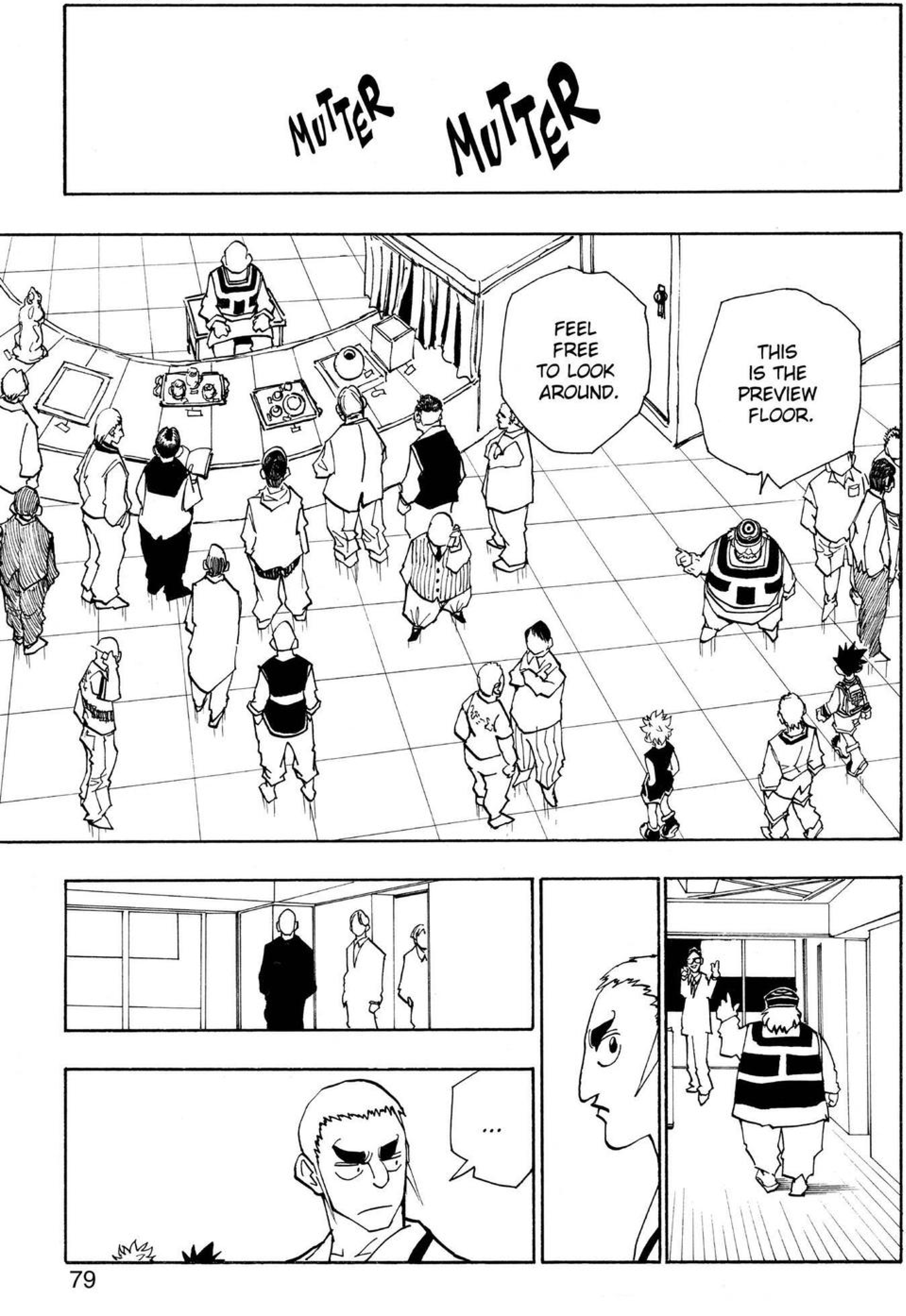

WHOA!!
CHECK OUT THE AURA!
IT'S GENUINE.
THIS WOULD BRING AT *LEAST* 300 MILLION.
OOH!!
BUT DEALERS MARKETS ARE CASH ONLY.
YOU WON'T GET ANY BIDS BY ENTERING SOMETHING THIS VALUABLE AT THE LAST MINUTE.
YOU'D BE WASTING YOUR ENTRANCE FEE.
SO WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
WE TAKE IT TO AN AUCTION PREVIEW.
WHAT'S THAT?

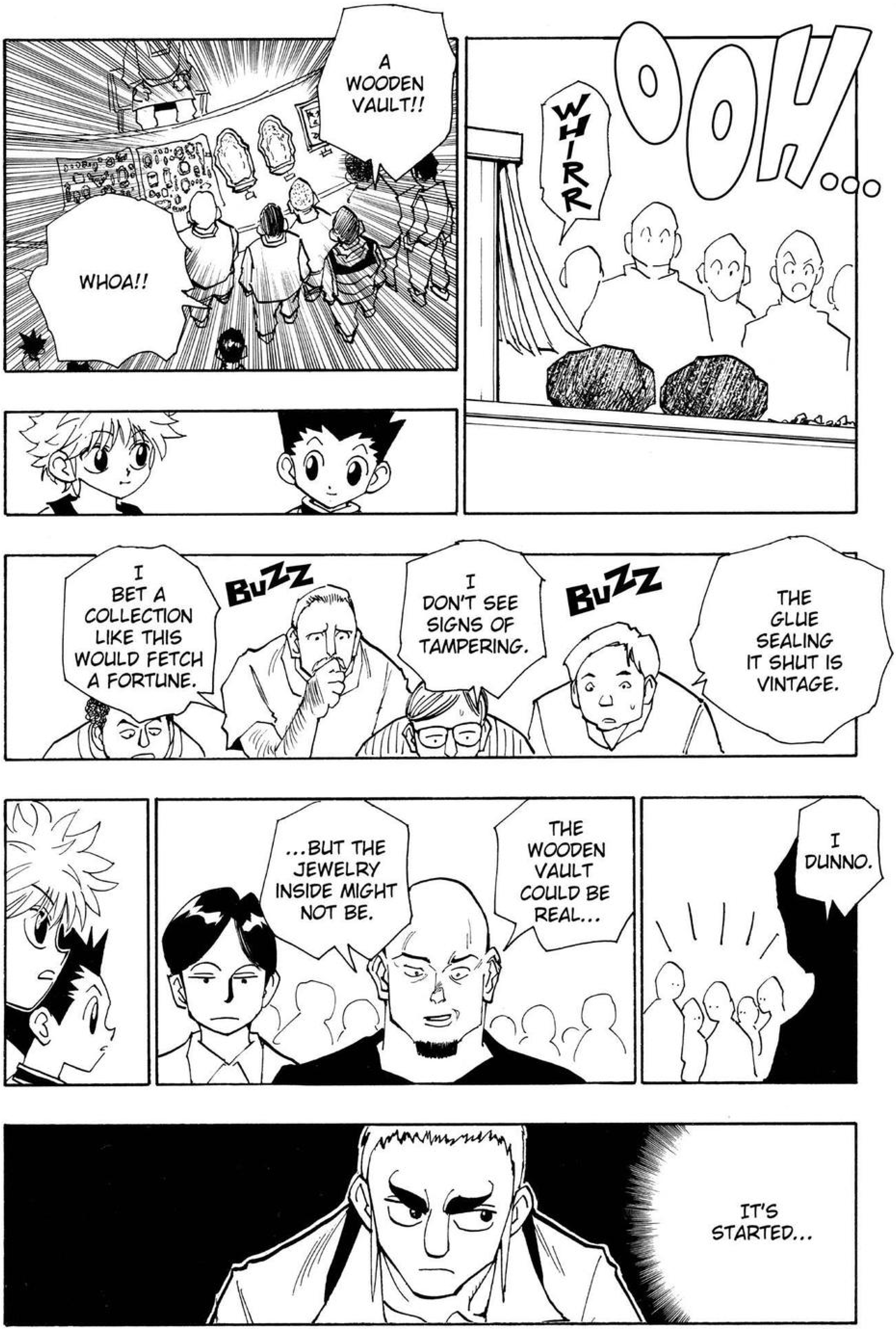
READ THIS WAY


IT'S A PLACE THAT SHOWCASES ITEMS THAT MISSED THE CATALOG DEADLINE.
DEALERS APPRAISE THE GOODS AND DECIDE HOW MUCH THEY'D PAY.
IT ALSO LETS THEM KNOW THE DAY SOMETHING'S GOING UP FOR AUCTION.
BUT I WARN YOU...
...NOTHING'S SIMPLE IN THIS BUSINESS.
A BEAUTY LIKE THIS COULD END UP *UNDERVALUED.*
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT TRICKS THEY MIGHT PULL.
GOT IT?
UNDER-VALUED?
I DON'T GET IT.
WELCOME. I'M TALOON, THE GALLERY DIRECTOR.
I HEAR FROM MY EMPLOYEES THAT YOU HAVE A MARVELOUS SPECIMEN!


WHAT A *MAGNIFICENT* COLLECTION.
ALL EXCELLENT SPECIMENS.
AND IN PRISTINE CONDITION.
WE WANT TO PREVIEW THIS FOR TOMORROW'S AUCTION.
VERY WELL, SIR.
IT'S QUITE A BEAUTY.
I'M TEMPTED TO BUY IT MYSELF.
WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO 250 MILLION?
SORRY...
OF COURSE. THIS COULD EASILY FETCH MORE...
...AT AN AUCTION.
COME THIS WAY.

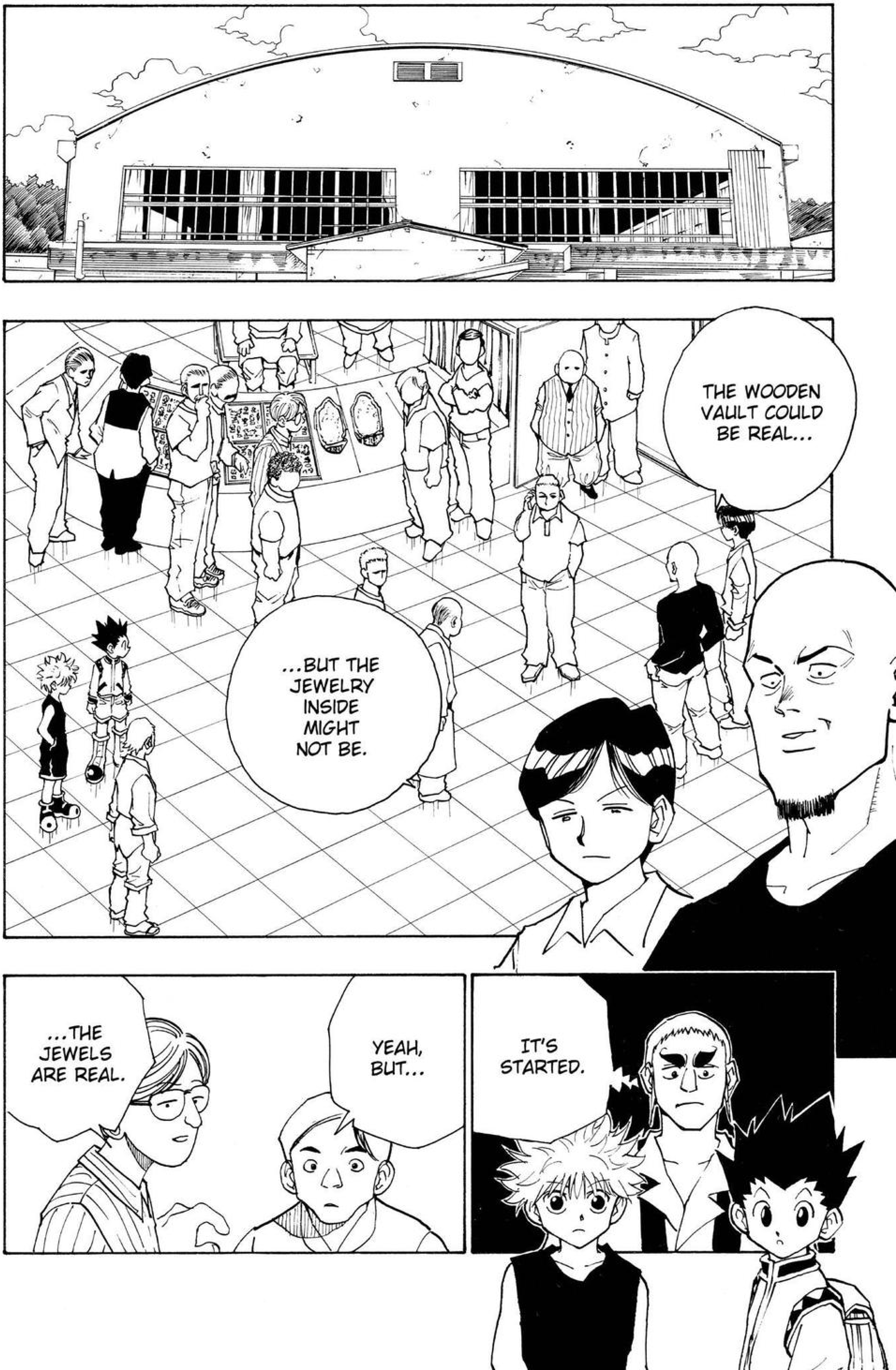
READ THIS WAY

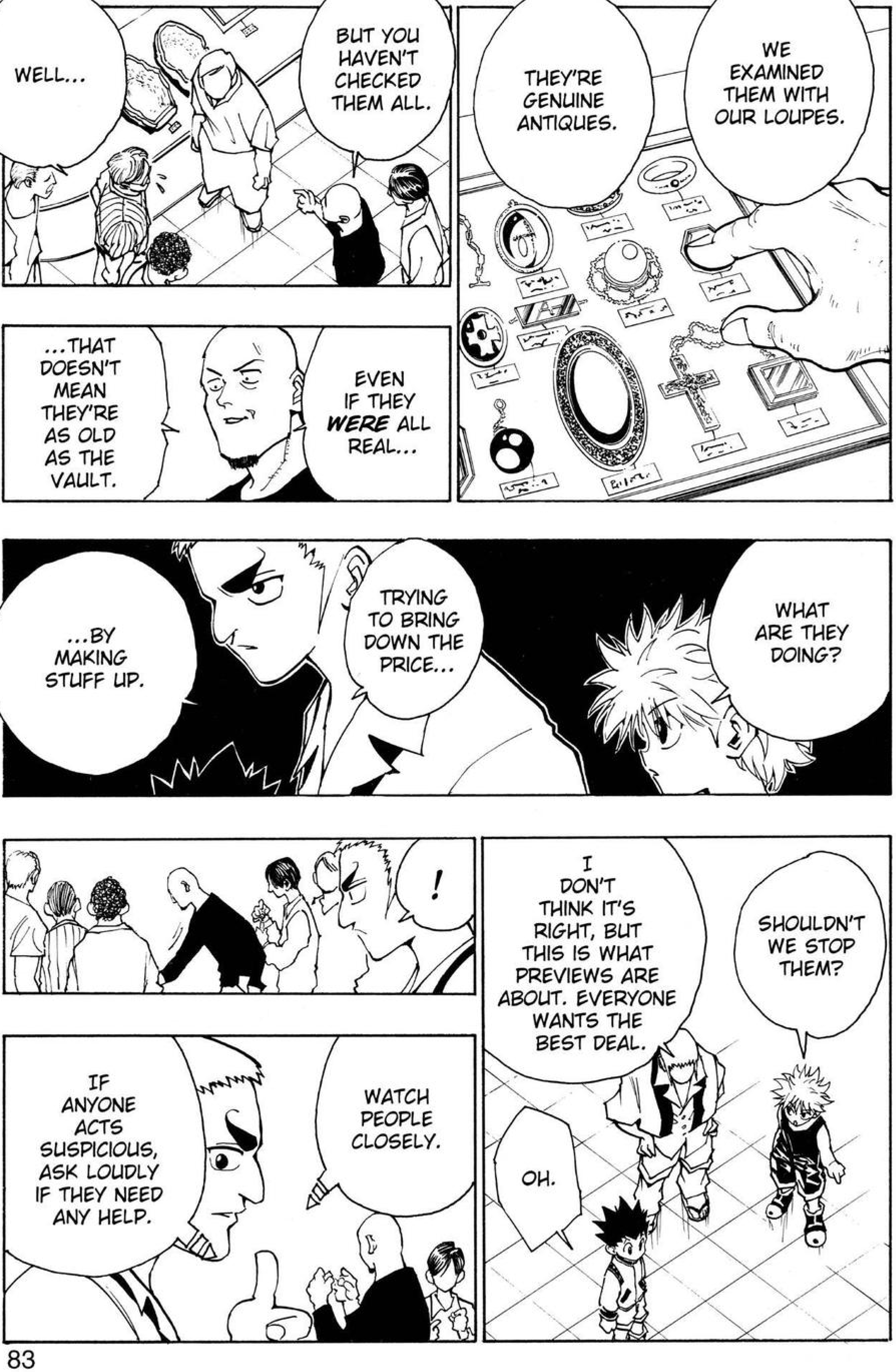

MUTTER MUTTER
THIS IS THE PREVIEW FLOOR.
FEEL FREE TO LOOK AROUND.
...

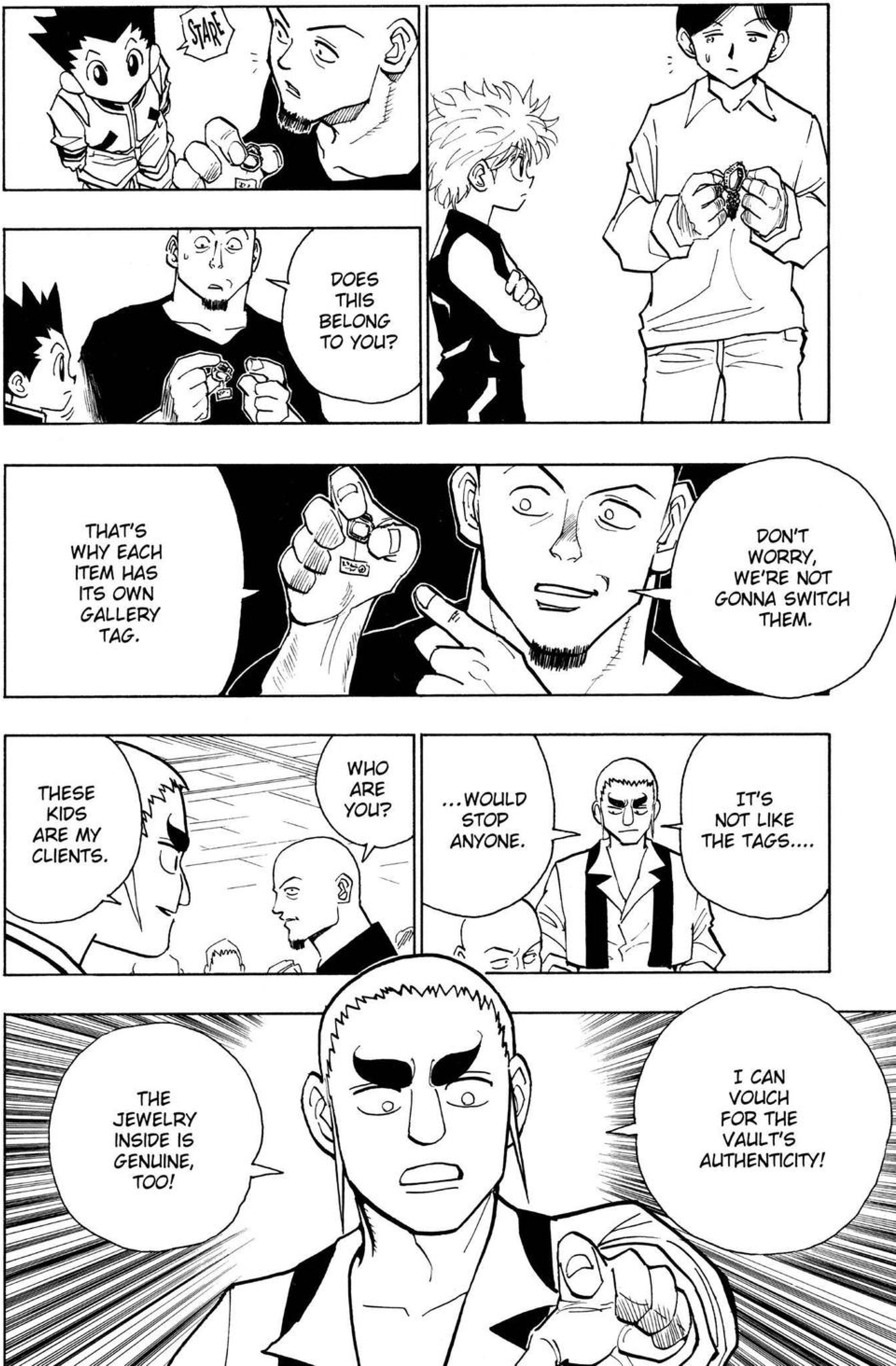

OOH...
WHIRR
A WOODEN VAULT!!
WHOA!!
THE GLUE SEALING IT SHUT IS VINTAGE.
BUZZ
I DON'T SEE SIGNS OF TAMPERING.
BUZZ
I BET A COLLECTION LIKE THIS WOULD FETCH A FORTUNE.
I DUNNO.
THE WOODEN VAULT COULD BE REAL...
...BUT THE JEWELRY INSIDE MIGHT NOT BE.
IT'S STARTED...

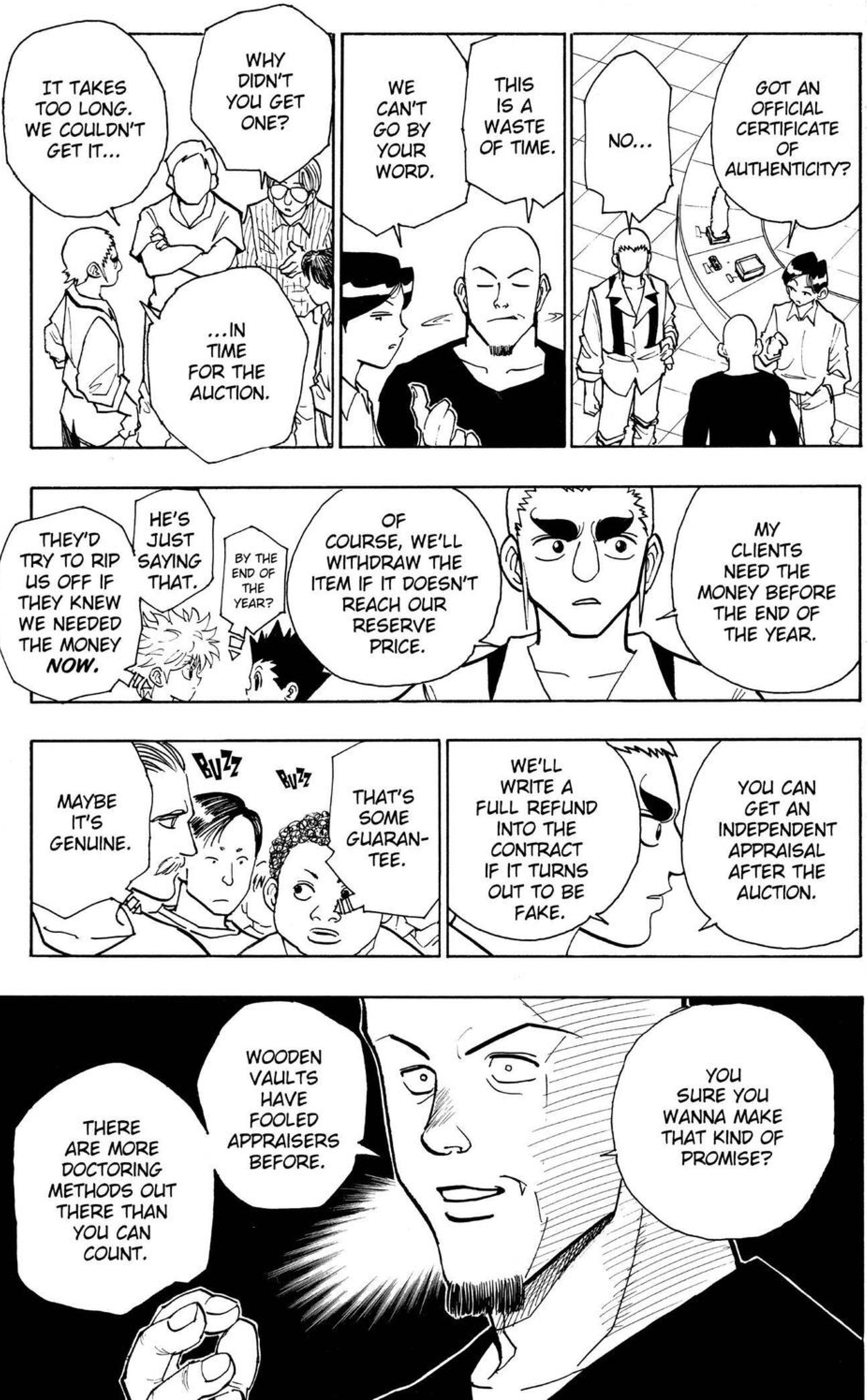
Chapter 88

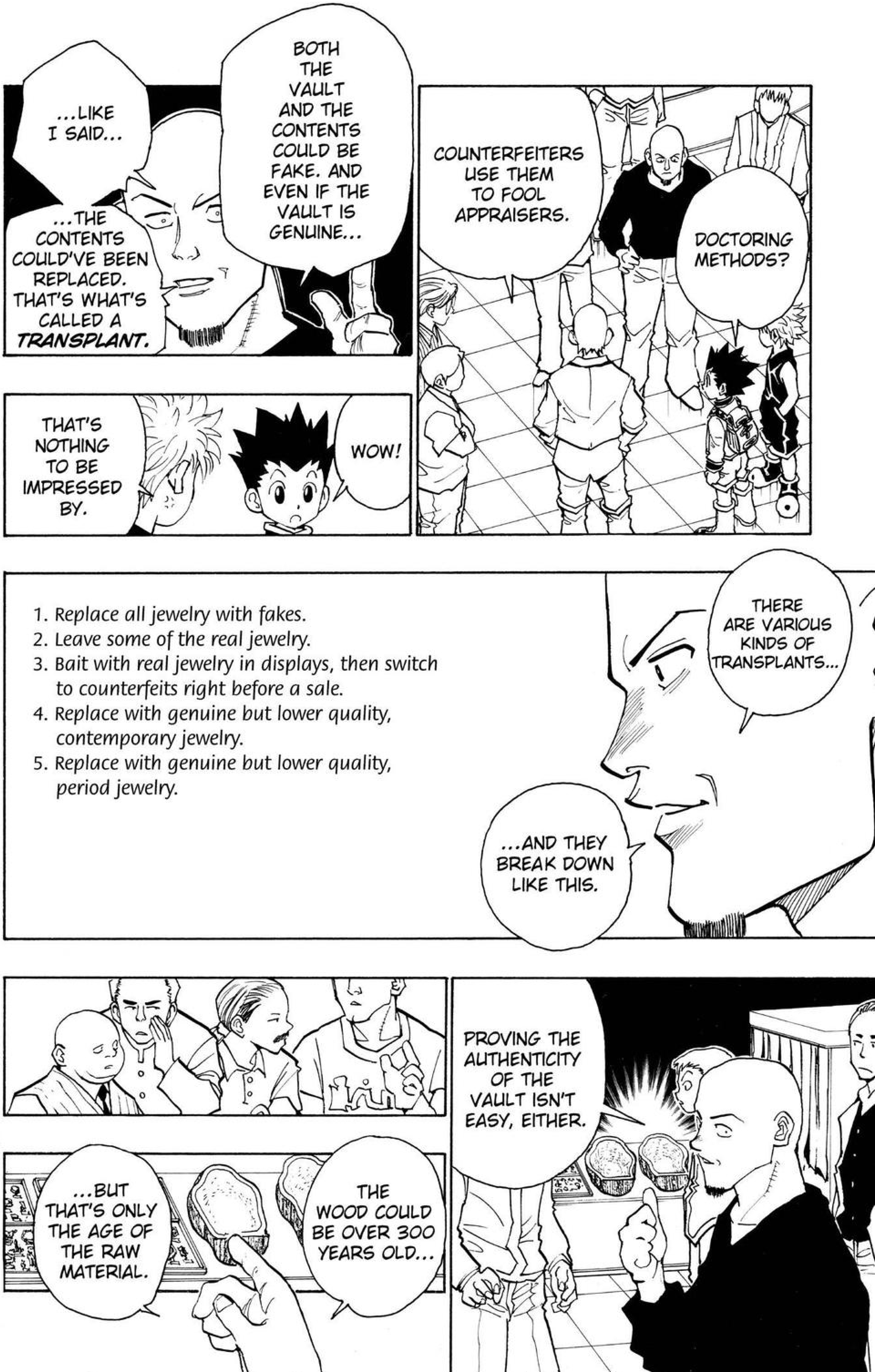
September 3rd: Part 4


THE WOODEN VAULT COULD BE REAL...
...BUT THE JEWELRY INSIDE MIGHT NOT BE.
IT'S STARTED.
YEAH, BUT...
...THE JEWELS ARE REAL.

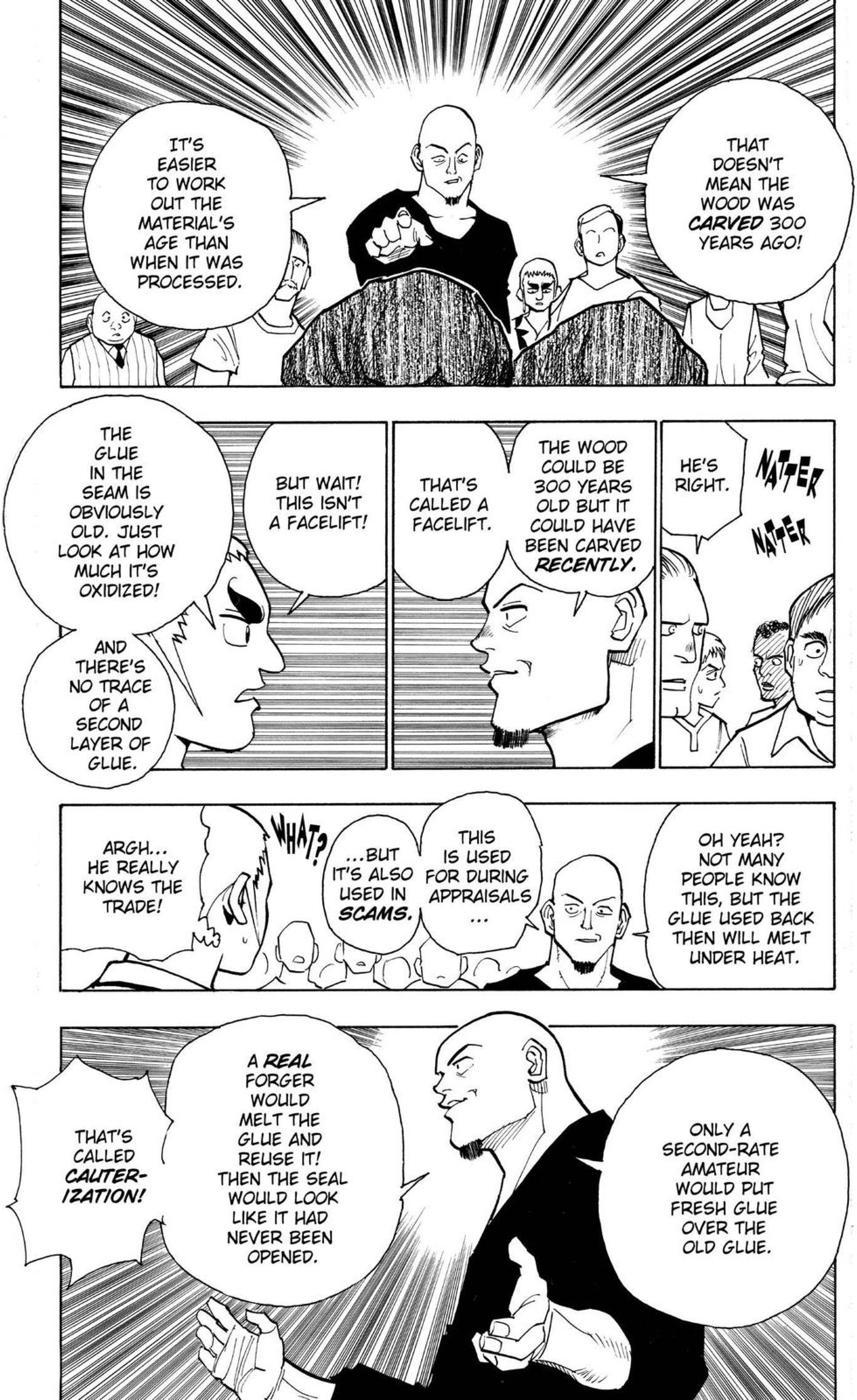

WE EXAMINED THEM WITH OUR LOUPES.
THEY'RE GENUINE ANTIQUES.
BUT YOU HAVEN'T CHECKED THEM ALL.
WELL...
EVEN IF THEY *WERE* ALL REAL...
...THAT DOESN'T MEAN THEY'RE AS OLD AS THE VAULT.
WHAT ARE THEY DOING?
TRYING TO BRING DOWN THE PRICE...
...BY MAKING STUFF UP.
SHOULDN'T WE STOP THEM?
I DON'T THINK IT'S RIGHT, BUT THIS IS WHAT PREVIEWS ARE ABOUT. EVERYONE WANTS THE BEST DEAL.
OH.
!
WATCH PEOPLE CLOSELY.
IF ANYONE ACTS SUSPICIOUS, ASK LOUDLY IF THEY NEED ANY HELP.

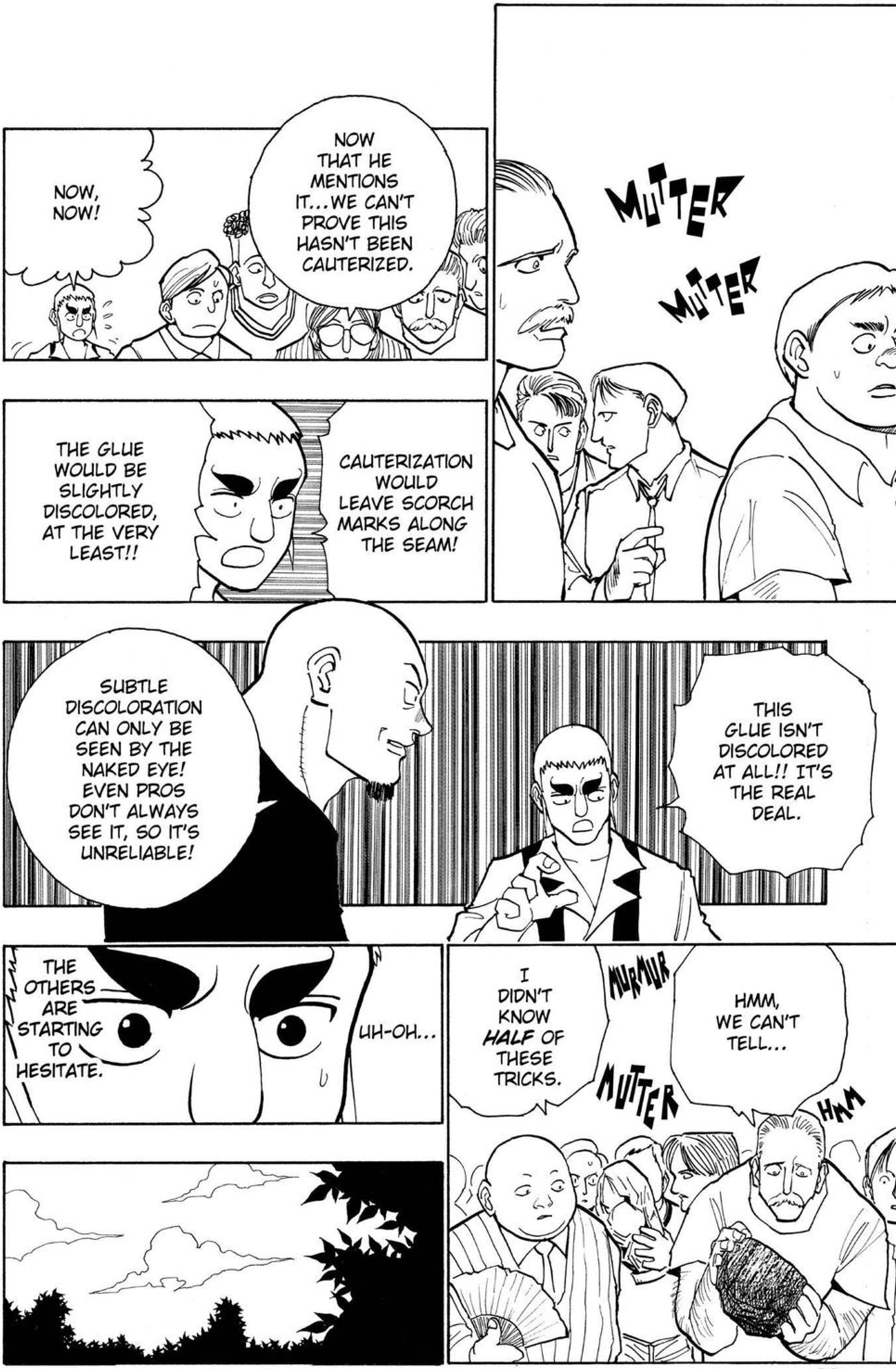

STARE
DOES THIS BELONG TO YOU?
DON'T WORRY, WE'RE NOT GONNA SWITCH THEM.
THAT'S WHY EACH ITEM HAS ITS OWN GALLERY TAG.
IT'S NOT LIKE THE TAGS....
...WOULD STOP ANYONE.
WHO ARE YOU?
THESE KIDS ARE MY CLIENTS.
I CAN VOUCH FOR THE VAULT'S AUTHENTICITY!
THE JEWELRY INSIDE IS GENUINE, TOO!

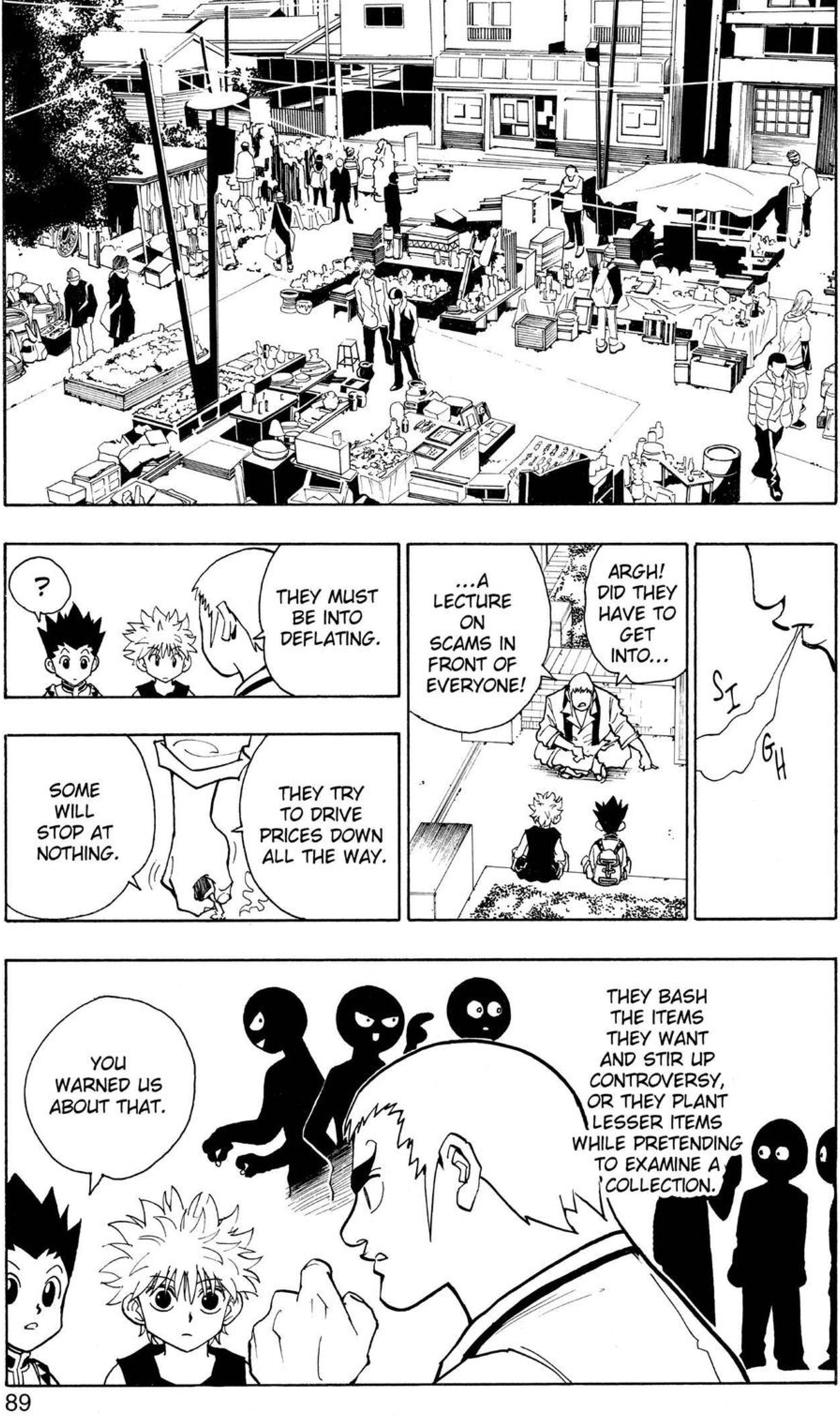

GOT AN OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY?
NO…
THIS IS A WASTE OF TIME.
WE CAN'T GO BY YOUR WORD.
WHY DIDN'T YOU GET ONE?
IT TAKES TOO LONG. WE COULDN'T GET IT…
…IN TIME FOR THE AUCTION.
MY CLIENTS NEED THE MONEY BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR.
OF COURSE, WE'LL WITHDRAW THE ITEM IF IT DOESN'T REACH OUR RESERVE PRICE.
BY THE END OF THE YEAR?
HE'S JUST SAYING THAT.
THEY'D TRY TO RIP US OFF IF THEY KNEW WE NEEDED THE MONEY NOW.
YOU CAN GET AN INDEPENDENT APPRAISAL AFTER THE AUCTION.
WE'LL WRITE A FULL REFUND INTO THE CONTRACT IF IT TURNS OUT TO BE FAKE.
THAT'S SOME GUARANTEE.
BUZZ
BUZZ
MAYBE IT'S GENUINE.
YOU SURE YOU WANNA MAKE THAT KIND OF PROMISE?
WOODEN VAULTS HAVE FOOLED APPRAISERS BEFORE.
THERE ARE MORE DOCTORING METHODS OUT THERE THAN YOU CAN COUNT.

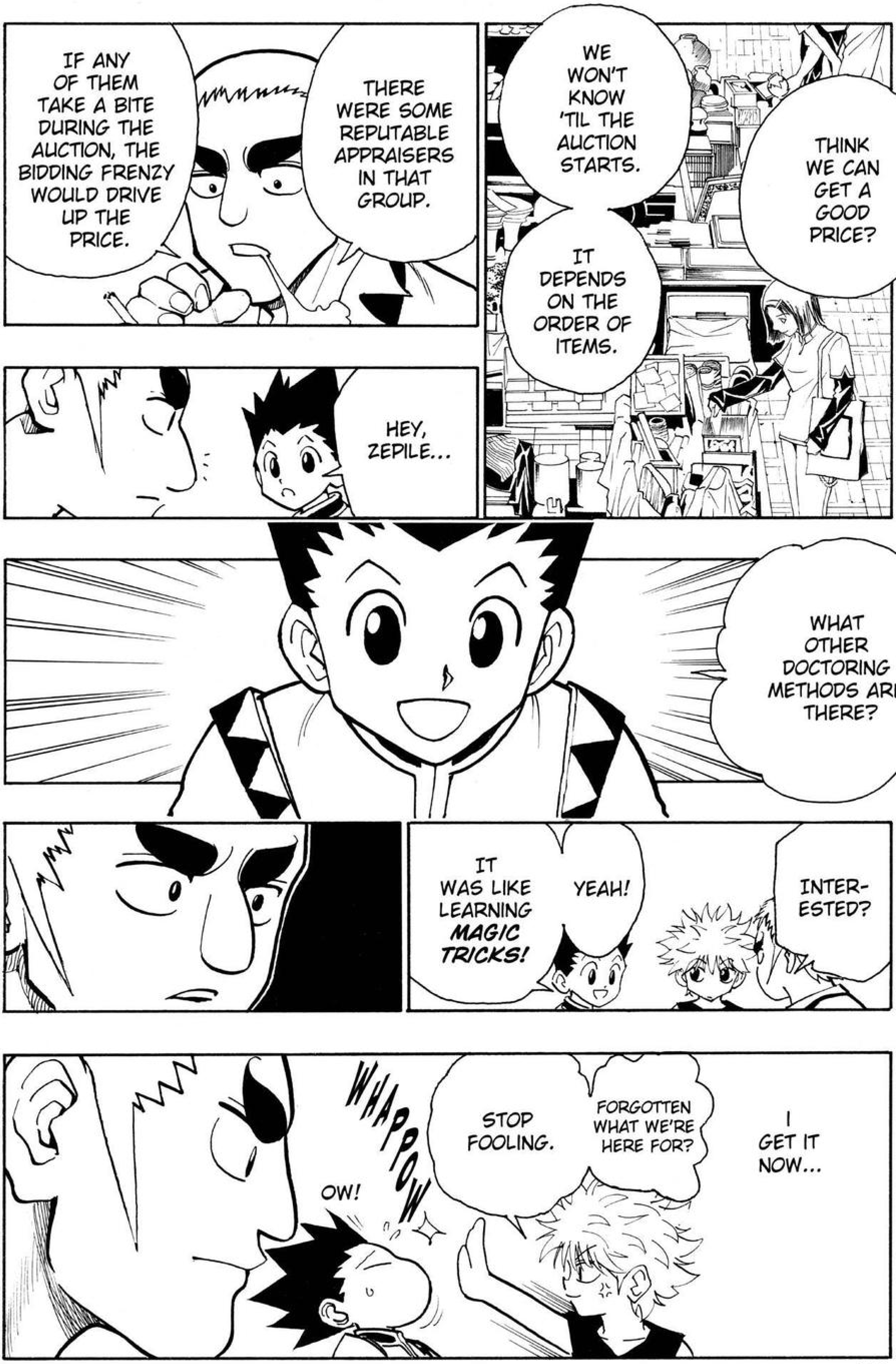

DOCTORING METHODS?
COUNTERFEITERS USE THEM TO FOOL APPRAISERS.
...LIKE I SAID...
BOTH THE VAULT AND THE CONTENTS COULD BE FAKE. AND EVEN IF THE VAULT IS GENUINE...
...THE CONTENTS COULD'VE BEEN REPLACED. THAT'S WHAT'S CALLED A ***TRANSPLANT.***
WOW!
THAT'S NOTHING TO BE IMPRESSED BY.
THERE ARE VARIOUS KINDS OF TRANSPLANTS...
...AND THEY BREAK DOWN LIKE THIS.
PROVING THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE VAULT ISN'T EASY, EITHER.
THE WOOD COULD BE OVER 300 YEARS OLD...
...BUT THAT'S ONLY THE AGE OF THE RAW MATERIAL.

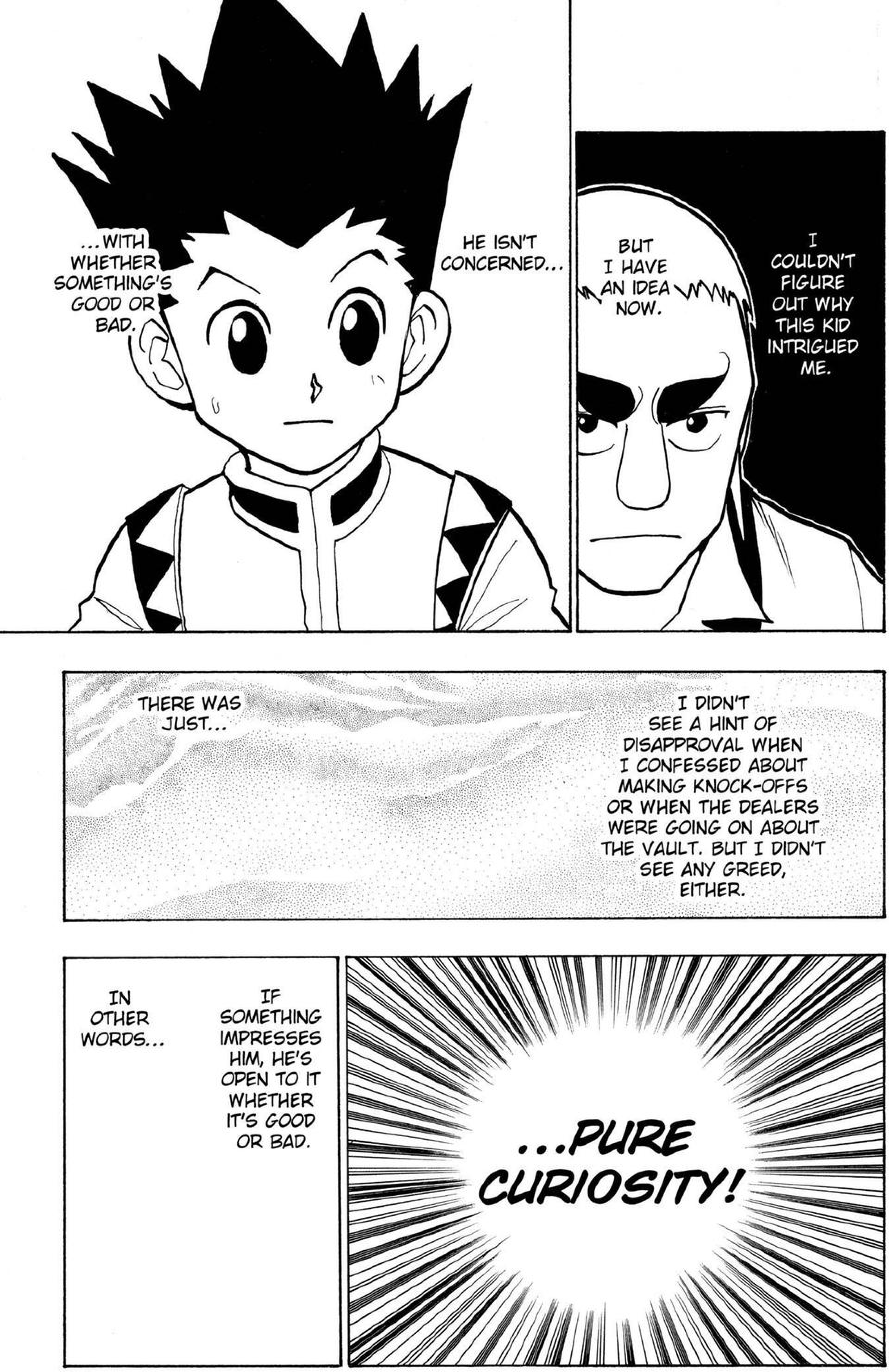
1. *Replace all jewelry with fakes.*
2. *Leave some of the real jewelry.*
3. *Bait with real jewelry in displays, then switch to counterfeits right before a sale.*
4. *Replace with genuine but lower quality, contemporary jewelry.*
5. *Replace with genuine but lower quality, period jewelry.*

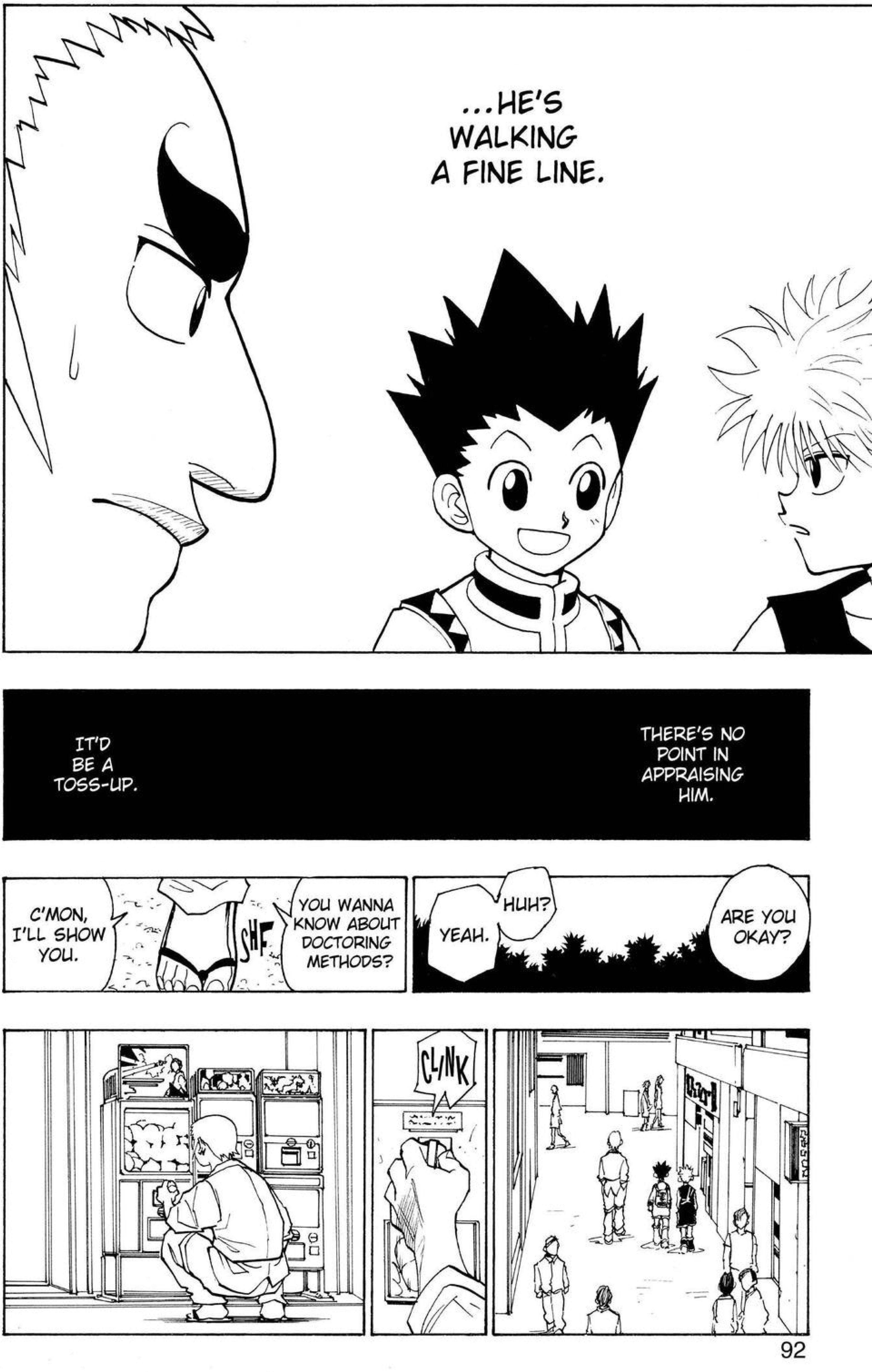

THAT DOESN'T MEAN THE WOOD WAS *CARVED* 300 YEARS AGO!
IT'S EASIER TO WORK OUT THE MATERIAL'S AGE THAN WHEN IT WAS PROCESSED.
HE'S RIGHT.
NATTER
NATTER
THE WOOD COULD BE 300 YEARS OLD BUT IT COULD HAVE BEEN CARVED *RECENTLY.*
THAT'S CALLED A FACELIFT.
BUT WAIT! THIS ISN'T A FACELIFT!
THE GLUE IN THE SEAM IS OBVIOUSLY OLD. JUST LOOK AT HOW MUCH IT'S OXIDIZED!
AND THERE'S NO TRACE OF A SECOND LAYER OF GLUE.
OH YEAH? NOT MANY PEOPLE KNOW THIS, BUT THE GLUE USED BACK THEN WILL MELT UNDER HEAT.
THIS IS USED FOR DURING APPRAISALS ...
...BUT IT'S ALSO USED IN *SCAMS.*
WHAT?
ARGH... HE REALLY KNOWS THE TRADE!
ONLY A SECOND-RATE AMATEUR WOULD PUT FRESH GLUE OVER THE OLD GLUE.
A *REAL* FORGER WOULD MELT THE GLUE AND REUSE IT! THEN THE SEAL WOULD LOOK LIKE IT HAD NEVER BEEN OPENED.
THAT'S CALLED *CAUTERIZATION!*

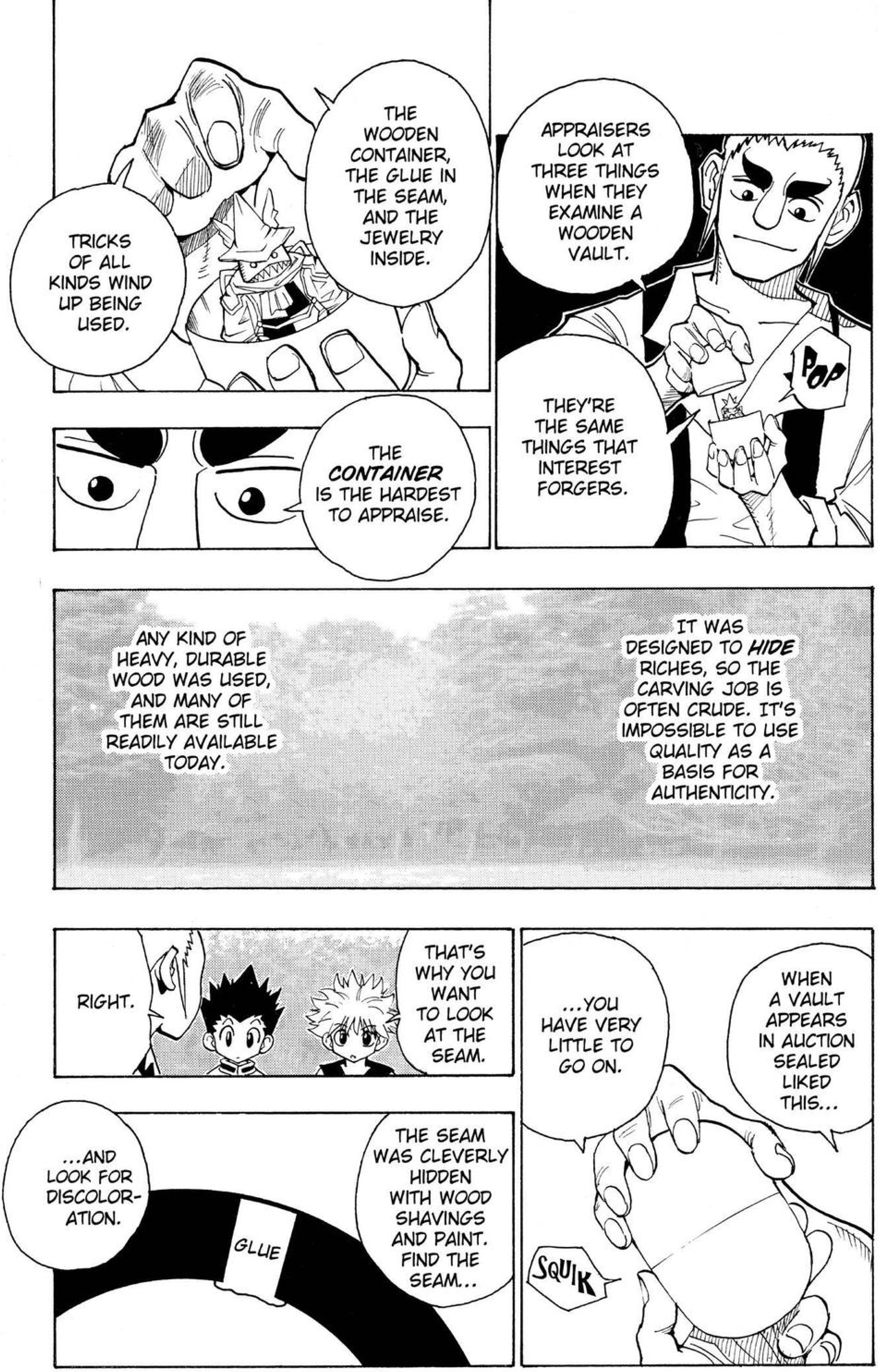

MUTTER
MUTTER
NOW THAT HE MENTIONS IT...WE CAN'T PROVE THIS HASN'T BEEN CAUTERIZED.
NOW, NOW!
CAUTERIZATION WOULD LEAVE SCORCH MARKS ALONG THE SEAM!
THE GLUE WOULD BE SLIGHTLY DISCOLORED, AT THE VERY LEAST!!
THIS GLUE ISN'T DISCOLORED AT ALL!! IT'S THE REAL DEAL.
SUBTLE DISCOLORATION CAN ONLY BE SEEN BY THE NAKED EYE! EVEN PROS DON'T ALWAYS SEE IT, SO IT'S UNRELIABLE!
HMM, WE CAN'T TELL...
HMM
MURMUR
MUTTER
I DIDN'T KNOW *HALF* OF THESE TRICKS.
UH-OH...
THE OTHERS ARE STARTING TO HESITATE.

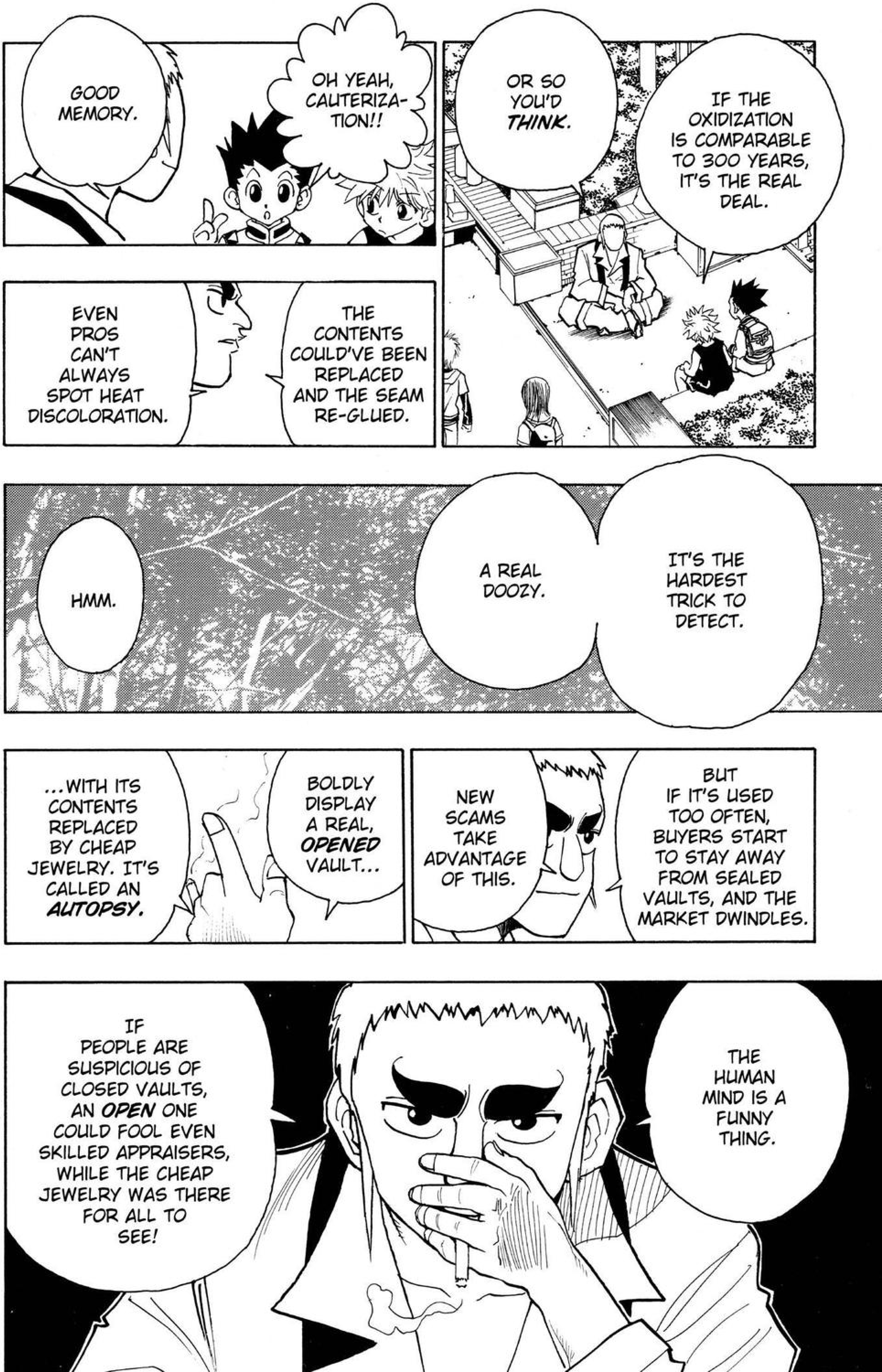

SIGH
ARGH! DID THEY HAVE TO GET INTO...
...A LECTURE ON SCAMS IN FRONT OF EVERYONE!
THEY MUST BE INTO DEFLATING.
?
THEY TRY TO DRIVE PRICES DOWN ALL THE WAY.
SOME WILL STOP AT NOTHING.
THEY BASH THE ITEMS THEY WANT AND STIR UP CONTROVERSY, OR THEY PLANT LESSER ITEMS WHILE PRETENDING TO EXAMINE A COLLECTION.
YOU WARNED US ABOUT THAT.

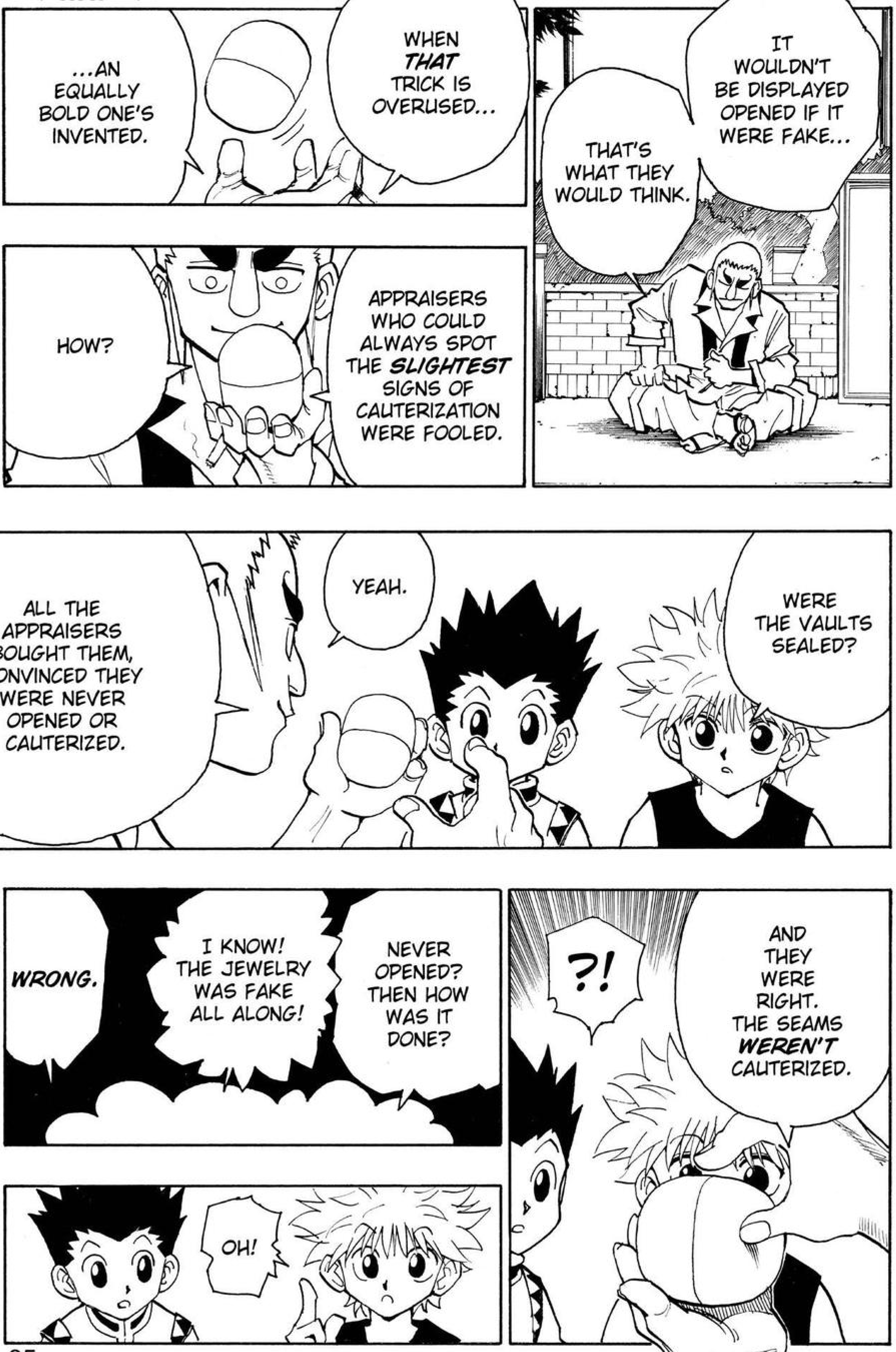

THINK WE CAN GET A GOOD PRICE?
WE WON'T KNOW 'TIL THE AUCTION STARTS.
IT DEPENDS ON THE ORDER OF ITEMS.
THERE WERE SOME REPUTABLE APPRAISERS IN THAT GROUP.
IF ANY OF THEM TAKE A BITE DURING THE AUCTION, THE BIDDING FRENZY WOULD DRIVE UP THE PRICE.
HEY, ZEPILE...
WHAT OTHER DOCTORING METHODS ARE THERE?
INTER-ESTED?
YEAH!
IT WAS LIKE LEARNING *MAGIC TRICKS!*
I GET IT NOW...
FORGOTTEN WHAT WE'RE HERE FOR?
STOP FOOLING.
WHAPPOW
OW!

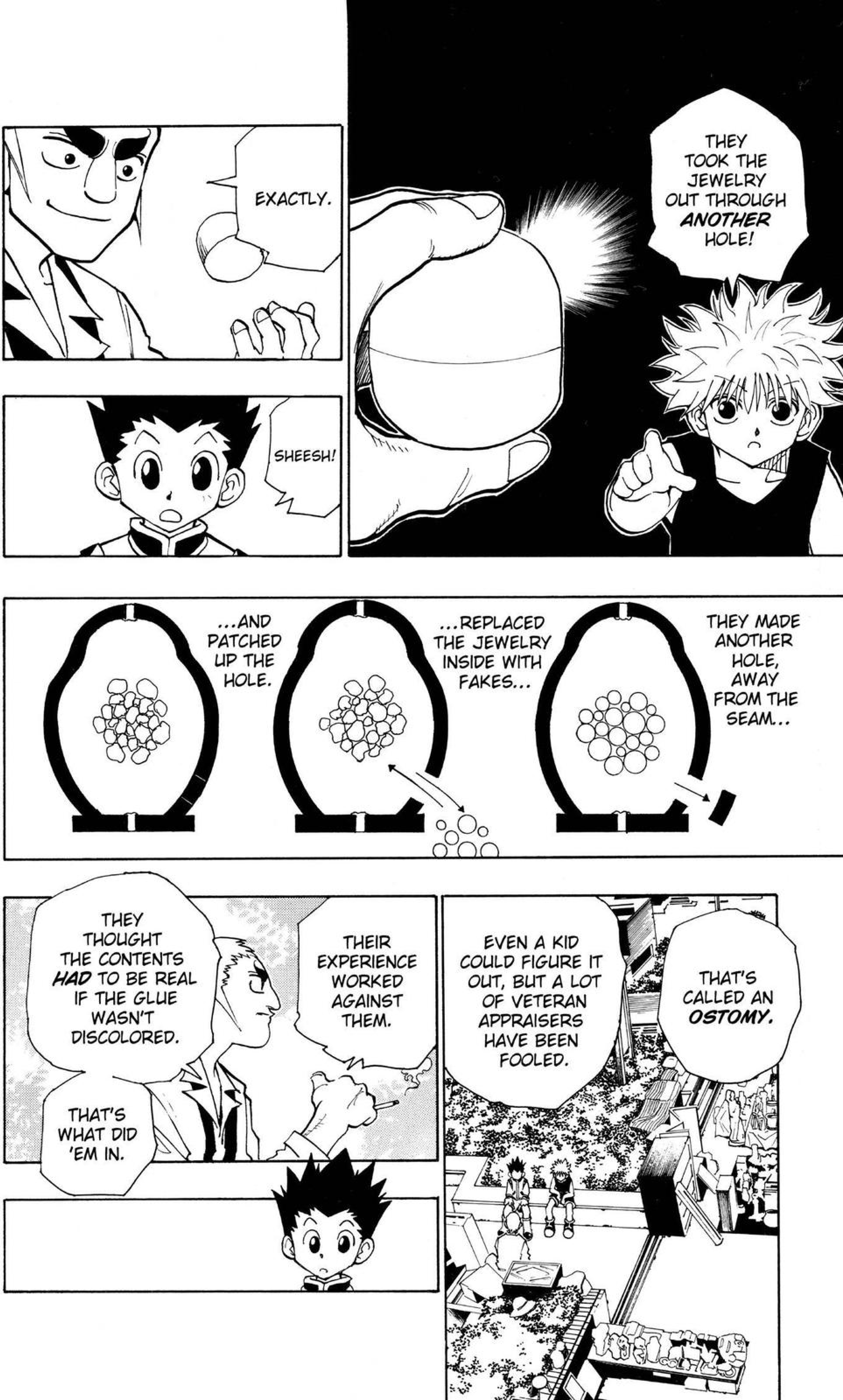

I COULDN'T FIGURE OUT WHY THIS KID INTRIGUED ME.
BUT I HAVE AN IDEA NOW.
HE ISN'T CONCERNED...
...WITH WHETHER SOMETHING'S GOOD OR BAD.
I DIDN'T SEE A HINT OF DISAPPROVAL WHEN I CONFESSED ABOUT MAKING KNOCK-OFFS OR WHEN THE DEALERS WERE GOING ON ABOUT THE VAULT. BUT I DIDN'T SEE ANY GREED, EITHER.
THERE WAS JUST...
...PURE CURIOSITY!
IF SOMETHING IMPRESSES HIM, HE'S OPEN TO IT WHETHER IT'S GOOD OR BAD.
IN OTHER WORDS...

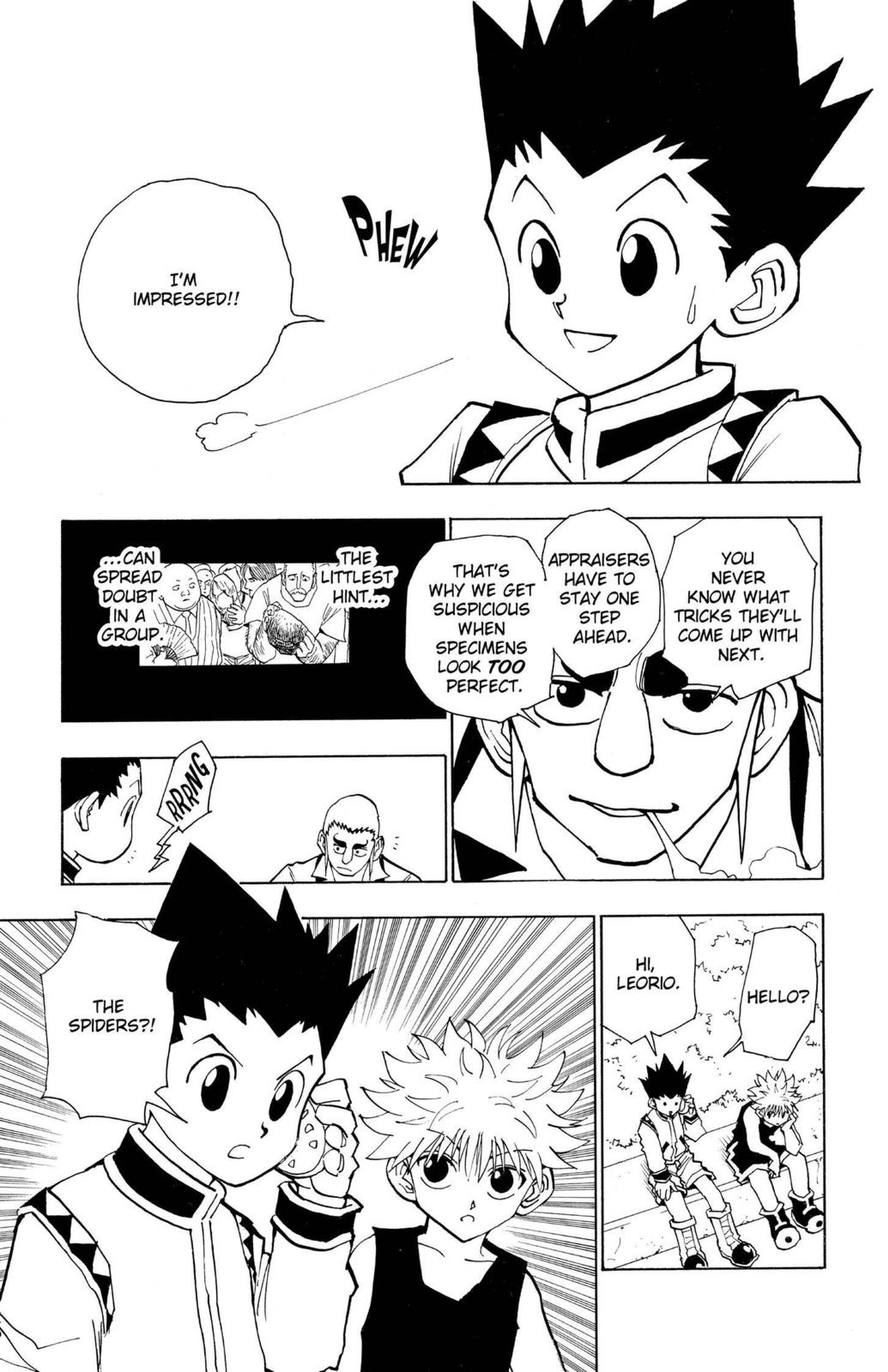

...HE'S WALKING A FINE LINE.
THERE'S NO POINT IN APPRAISING HIM.
IT'D BE A TOSS-UP.
ARE YOU OKAY?
HUH?
YEAH.
YOU WANNA KNOW ABOUT DOCTORING METHODS?
SHF
C'MON, I'LL SHOW YOU.
CLINK

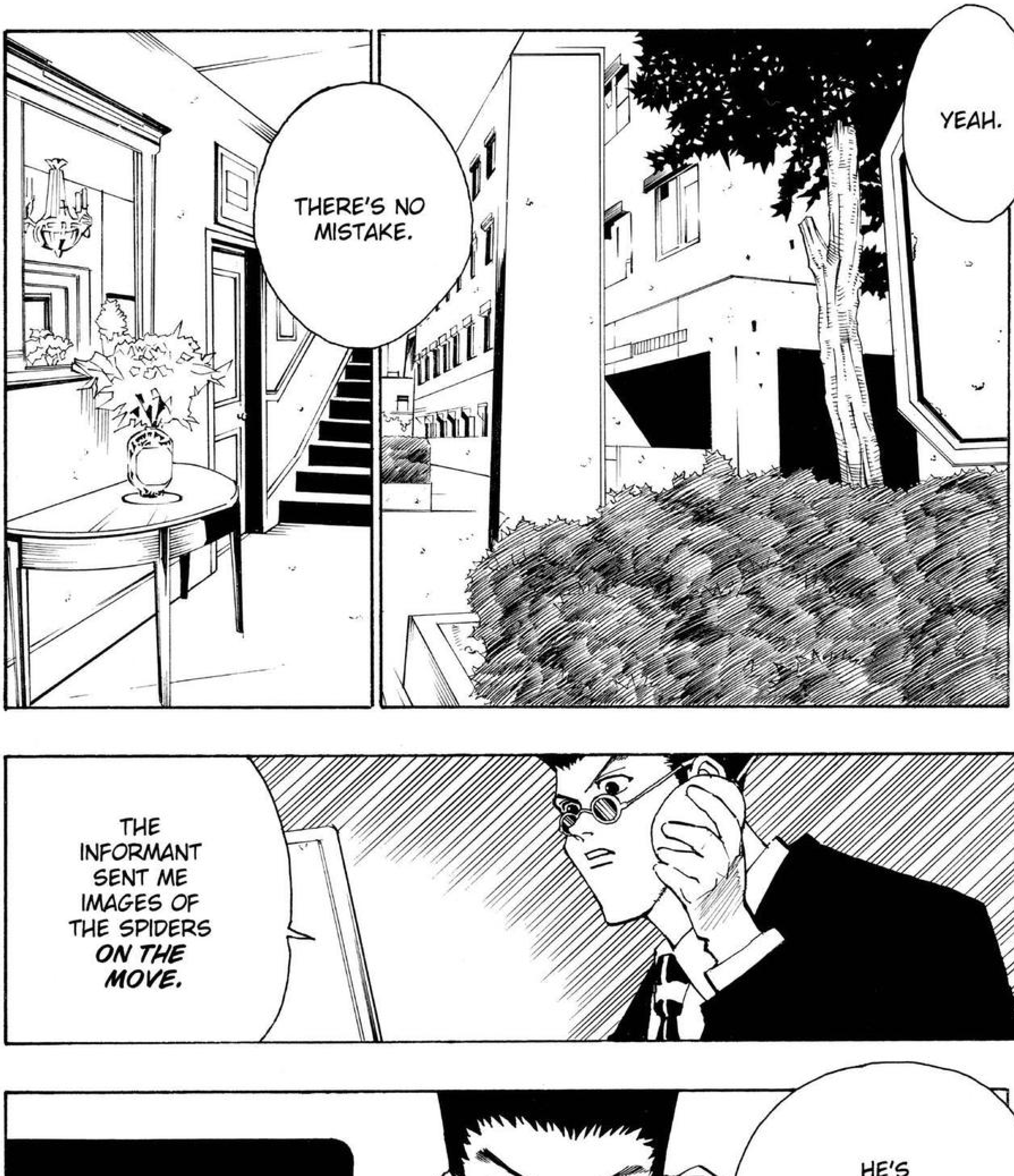

APPRAISERS LOOK AT THREE THINGS WHEN THEY EXAMINE A WOODEN VAULT.
POP
THEY'RE THE SAME THINGS THAT INTEREST FORGERS.
THE WOODEN CONTAINER, THE GLUE IN THE SEAM, AND THE JEWELRY INSIDE.
TRICKS OF ALL KINDS WIND UP BEING USED.
THE ***CONTAINER*** IS THE HARDEST TO APPRAISE.
IT WAS DESIGNED TO ***HIDE*** RICHES, SO THE CARVING JOB IS OFTEN CRUDE. IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO USE QUALITY AS A BASIS FOR AUTHENTICITY.
ANY KIND OF HEAVY, DURABLE WOOD WAS USED, AND MANY OF THEM ARE STILL READILY AVAILABLE TODAY.
WHEN A VAULT APPEARS IN AUCTION SEALED LIKED THIS...
...YOU HAVE VERY LITTLE TO GO ON.
SQUIK
THAT'S WHY YOU WANT TO LOOK AT THE SEAM.
RIGHT.
THE SEAM WAS CLEVERLY HIDDEN WITH WOOD SHAVINGS AND PAINT. FIND THE SEAM...
...AND LOOK FOR DISCOLORATION.
GLUE

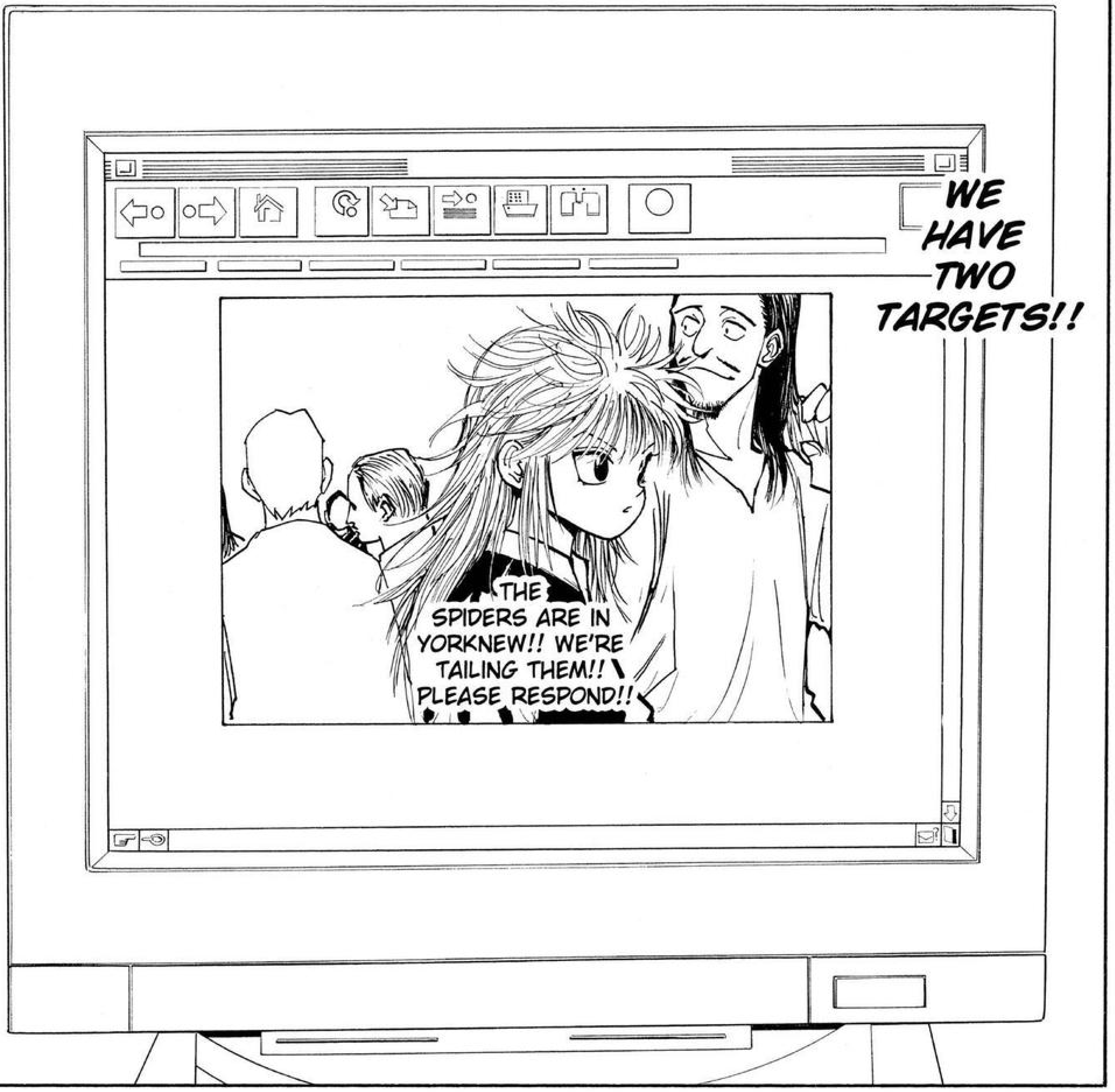

IF THE OXIDIZATION IS COMPARABLE TO 300 YEARS, IT'S THE REAL DEAL.
OR SO YOU'D THINK.
OH YEAH, CAUTERIZATION!!
GOOD MEMORY.
THE CONTENTS COULD'VE BEEN REPLACED AND THE SEAM RE-GLUED.
EVEN PROS CAN'T ALWAYS SPOT HEAT DISCOLORATION.
IT'S THE HARDEST TRICK TO DETECT.
A REAL DOOZY.
HMM.
BUT IF IT'S USED TOO OFTEN, BUYERS START TO STAY AWAY FROM SEALED VAULTS, AND THE MARKET DWINDLES.
NEW SCAMS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS.
BOLDLY DISPLAY A REAL, OPENED VAULT...
...WITH ITS CONTENTS REPLACED BY CHEAP JEWELRY. IT'S CALLED AN AUTOPSY.
THE HUMAN MIND IS A FUNNY THING.
IF PEOPLE ARE SUSPICIOUS OF CLOSED VAULTS, AN OPEN ONE COULD FOOL EVEN SKILLED APPRAISERS, WHILE THE CHEAP JEWELRY WAS THERE FOR ALL TO SEE!

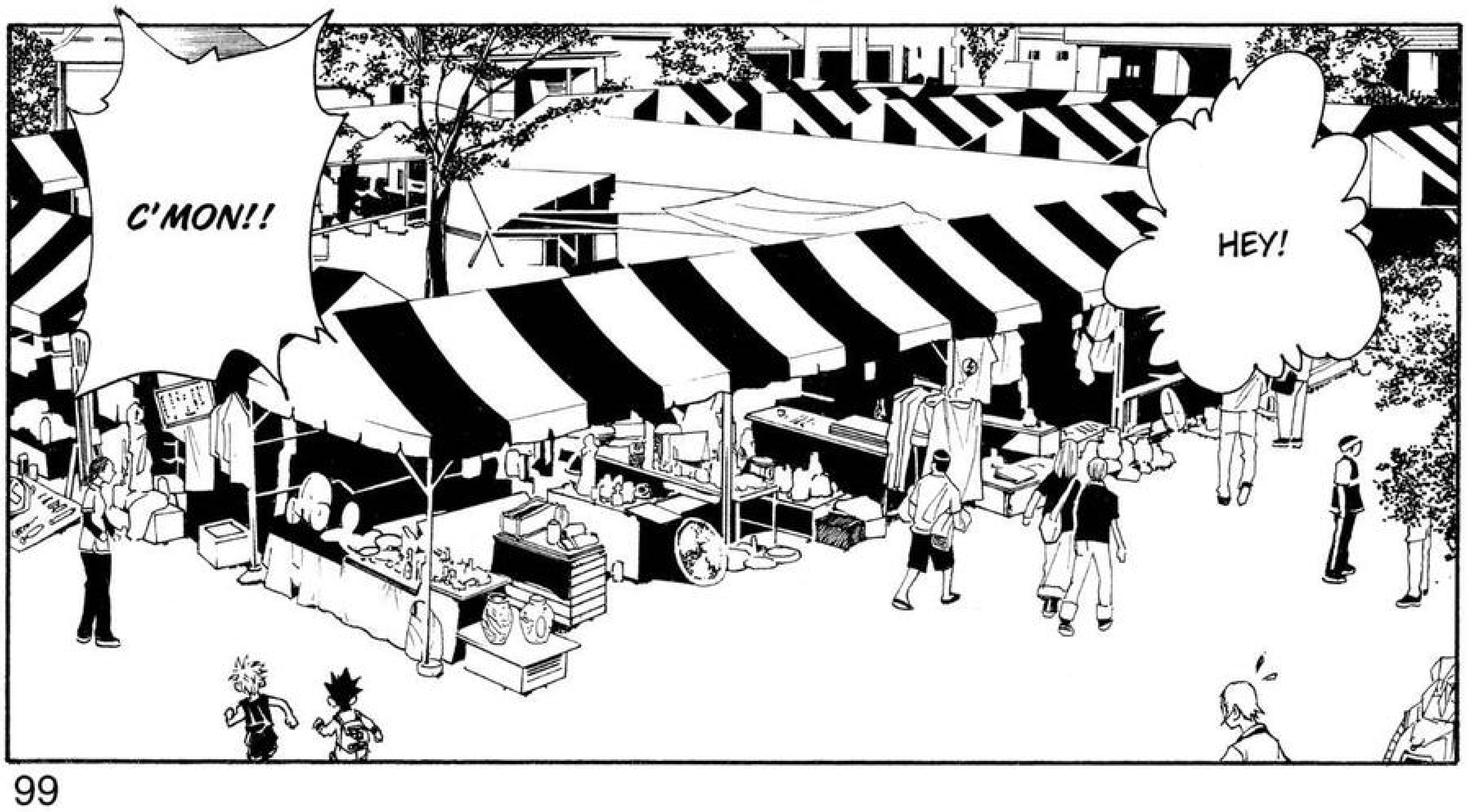

IT WOULDN'T BE DISPLAYED OPENED IF IT WERE FAKE...
THAT'S WHAT THEY WOULD THINK.
WHEN *THAT* TRICK IS OVERUSED...
...AN EQUALLY BOLD ONE'S INVENTED.
APPRAISERS WHO COULD ALWAYS SPOT THE *SLIGHTEST* SIGNS OF CAUTERIZATION WERE FOOLED.
HOW?
WERE THE VAULTS SEALED?
YEAH.
ALL THE APPRAISERS BOUGHT THEM, CONVINCED THEY WERE NEVER OPENED OR CAUTERIZED.
AND THEY WERE RIGHT. THE SEAMS *WEREN'T* CAUTERIZED.
?!
NEVER OPENED? THEN HOW WAS IT DONE?
I KNOW! THE JEWELRY WAS FAKE ALL ALONG!
WRONG.
OH!

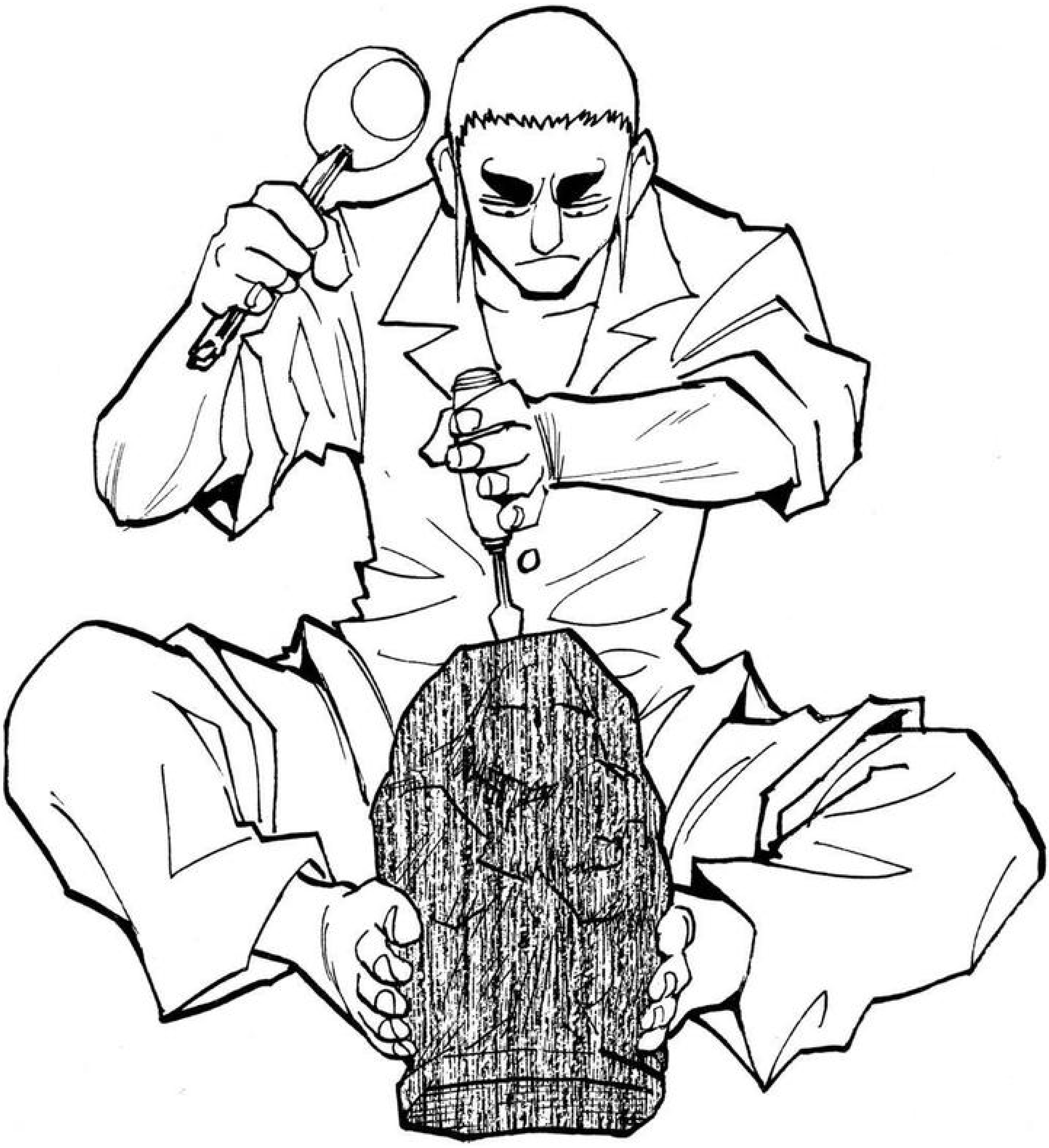

THEY TOOK THE JEWELRY OUT THROUGH **ANOTHER** HOLE!
EXACTLY.
SHEESH!
THEY MADE ANOTHER HOLE, AWAY FROM THE SEAM...
...REPLACED THE JEWELRY INSIDE WITH FAKES...
...AND PATCHED UP THE HOLE.
THAT'S CALLED AN ***OSTOMY.***
EVEN A KID COULD FIGURE IT OUT, BUT A LOT OF VETERAN APPRAISERS HAVE BEEN FOOLED.
THEIR EXPERIENCE WORKED AGAINST THEM.
THEY THOUGHT THE CONTENTS ***HAD*** TO BE REAL IF THE GLUE WASN'T DISCOLORED.
THAT'S WHAT DID 'EM IN.


PHEW
I'M IMPRESSED!!
YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT TRICKS THEY'LL COME UP WITH NEXT.
APPRAISERS HAVE TO STAY ONE STEP AHEAD.
THAT'S WHY WE GET SUSPICIOUS WHEN SPECIMENS LOOK **TOO** PERFECT.
THE LITTLEST HINT...
...CAN SPREAD DOUBT IN A GROUP.
RRRNG
HELLO?
HI, LEORIO.
THE SPIDERS?!

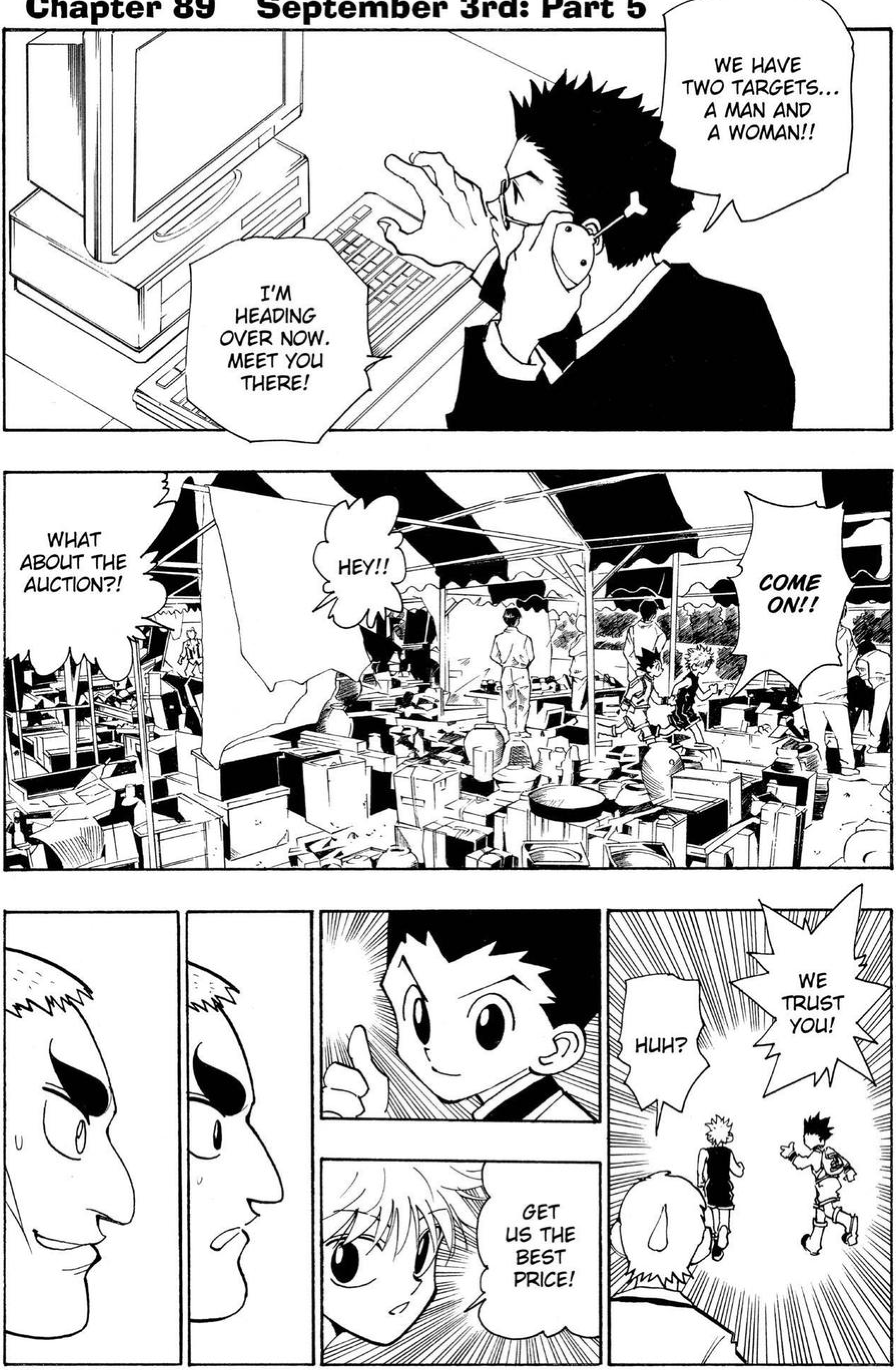

YEAH.
THERE'S NO MISTAKE.
THE INFORMANT SENT ME IMAGES OF THE SPIDERS *ON THE MOVE.*
HE'S STREAMING ME IMAGES WITH HIS CELL PHONE CAMERA.
I'M GETTING THE DETAILS NOW.

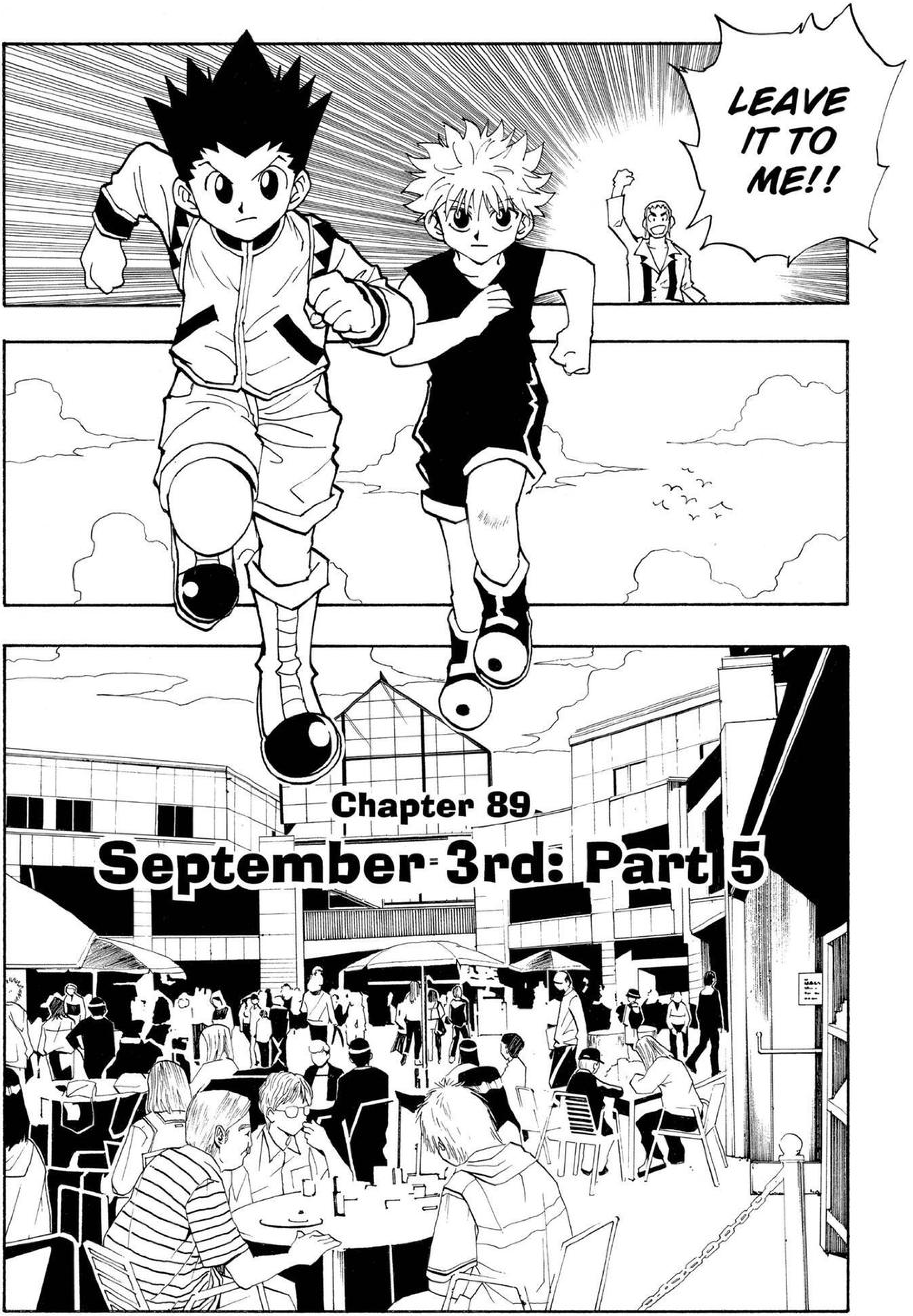

WE HAVE TWO TARGETS!!
THE SPIDERS ARE IN YORKNEW!! WE'RE TAILING THEM!! PLEASE RESPOND!!


HEY!
C'MON!!



Chapter 89 September 3rd: Part 5

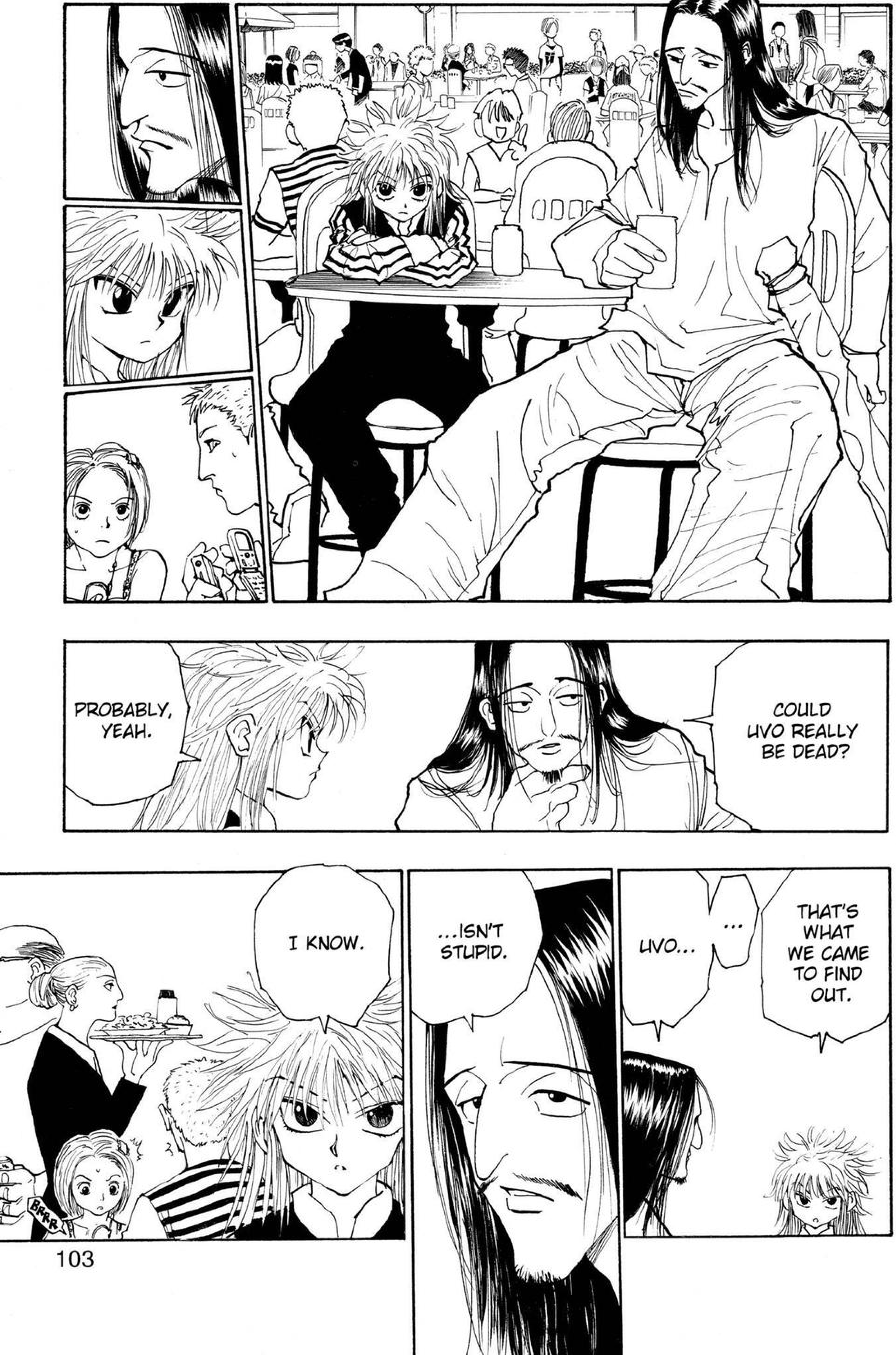

WE HAVE TWO TARGETS... A MAN AND A WOMAN!!
I'M HEADING OVER NOW. MEET YOU THERE!
COME ON!!
HEY!!
WHAT ABOUT THE AUCTION?!
WE TRUST YOU!
HUH?
GET US THE BEST PRICE!

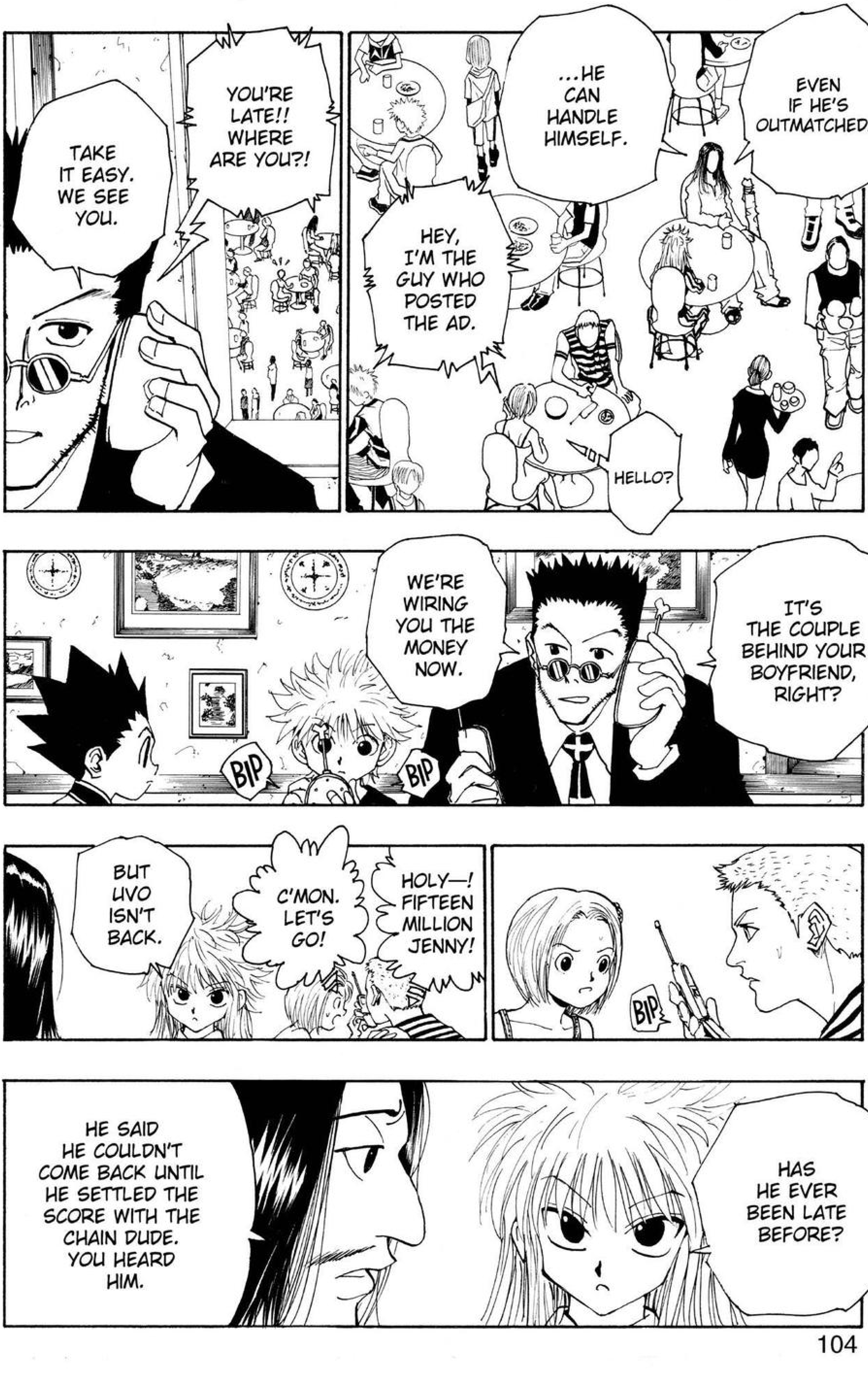

LEAVE IT TO ME!!

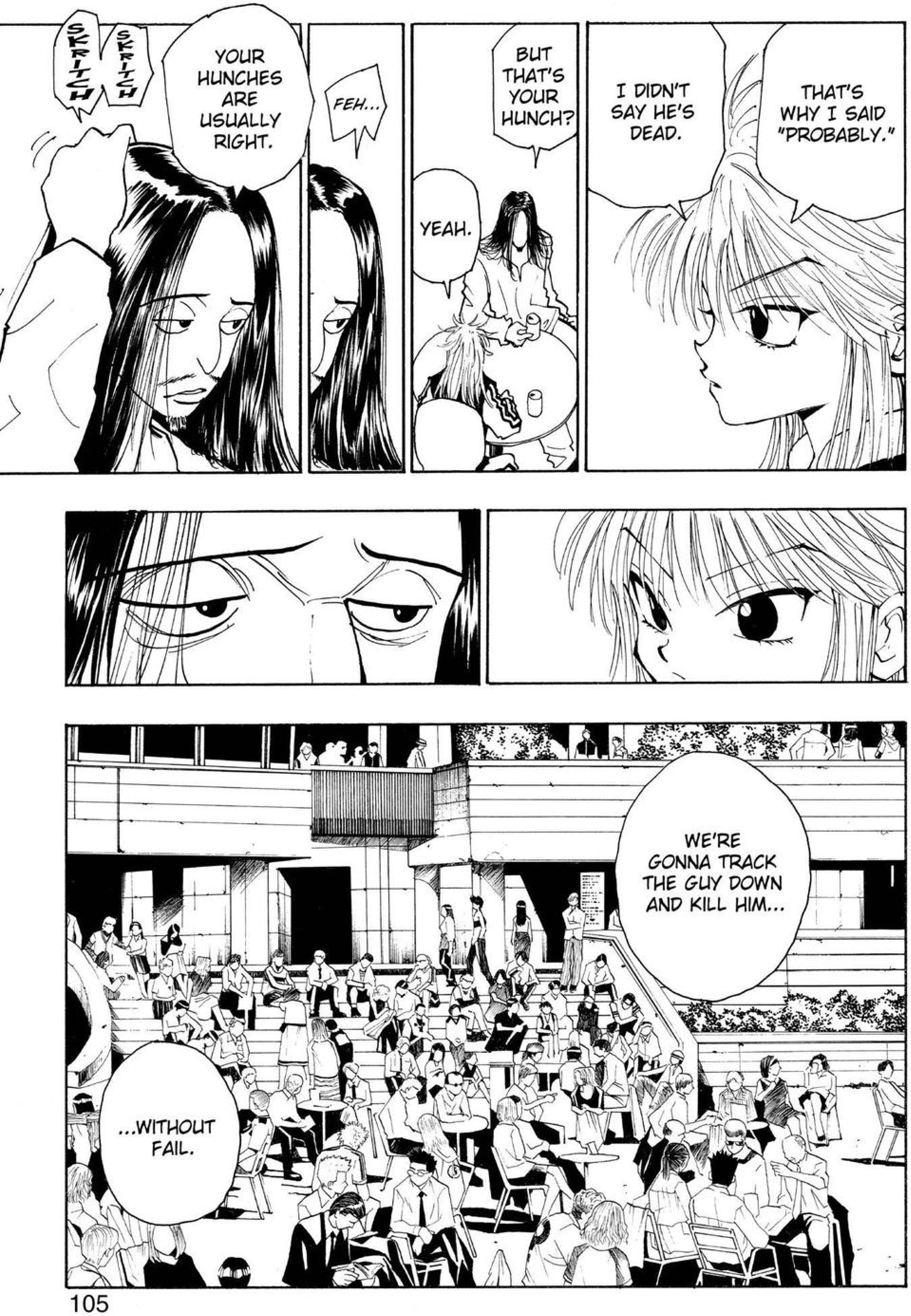
Chapter 89

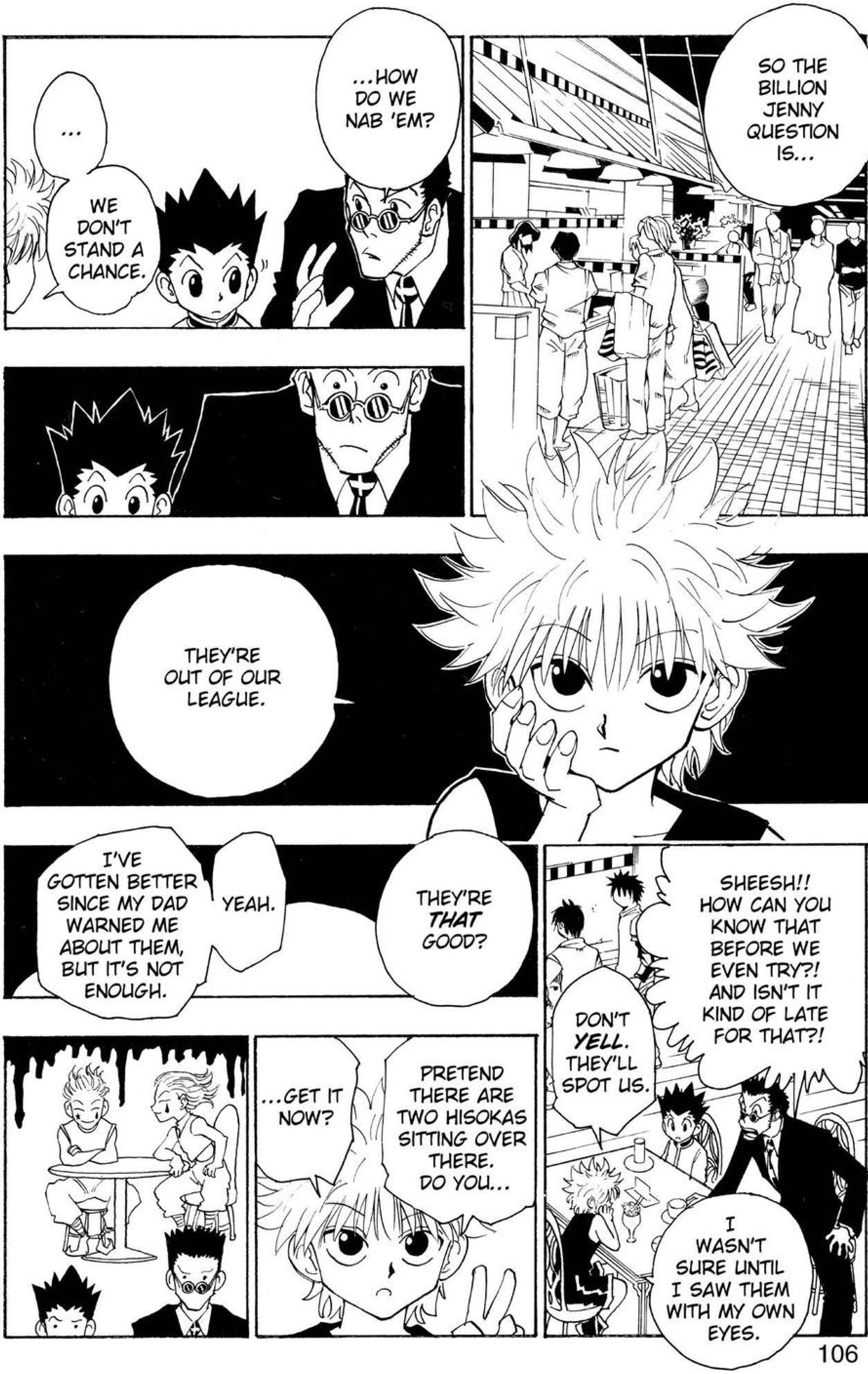
September 3rd: Part 5

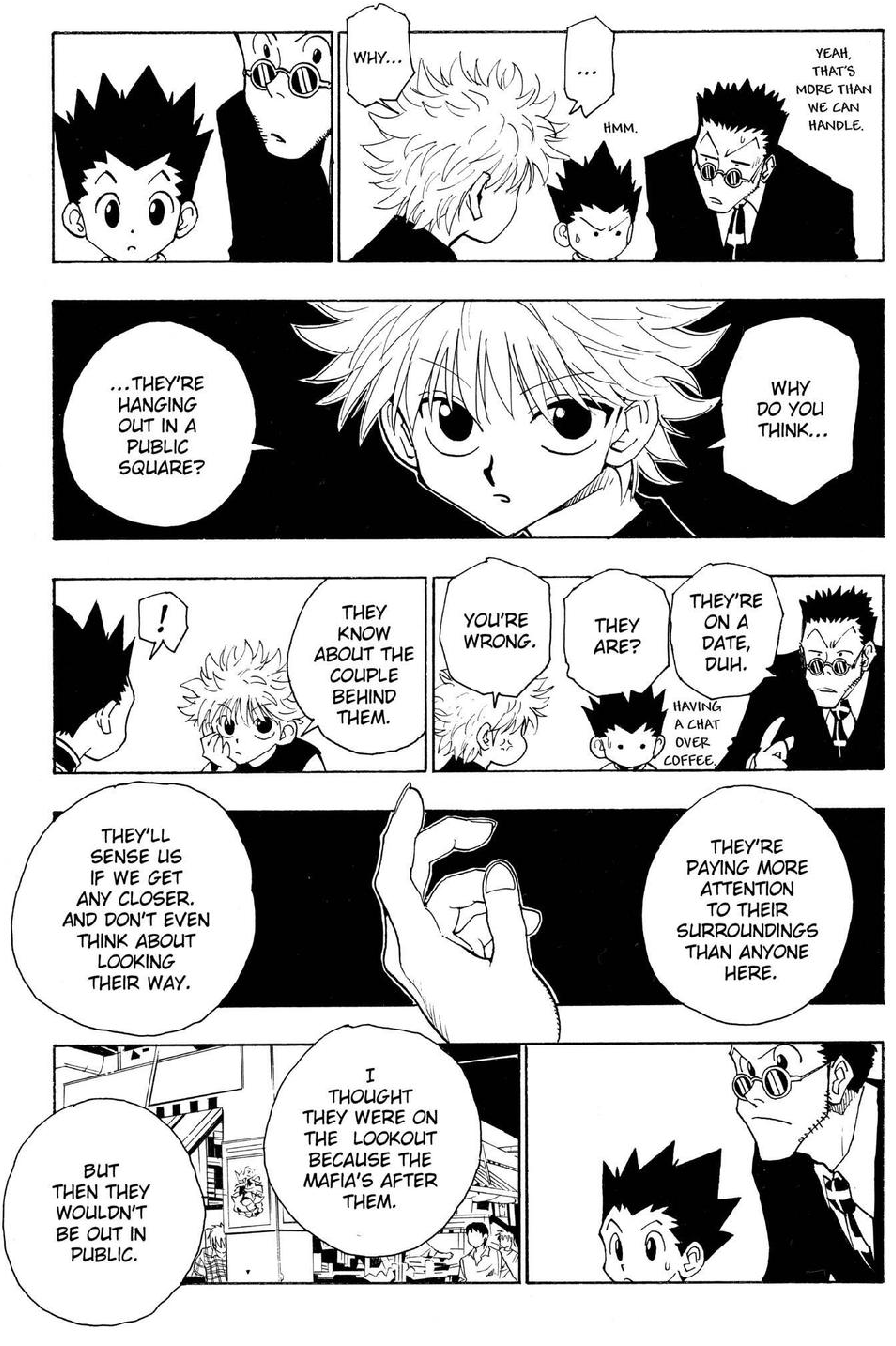
READ THIS WAY

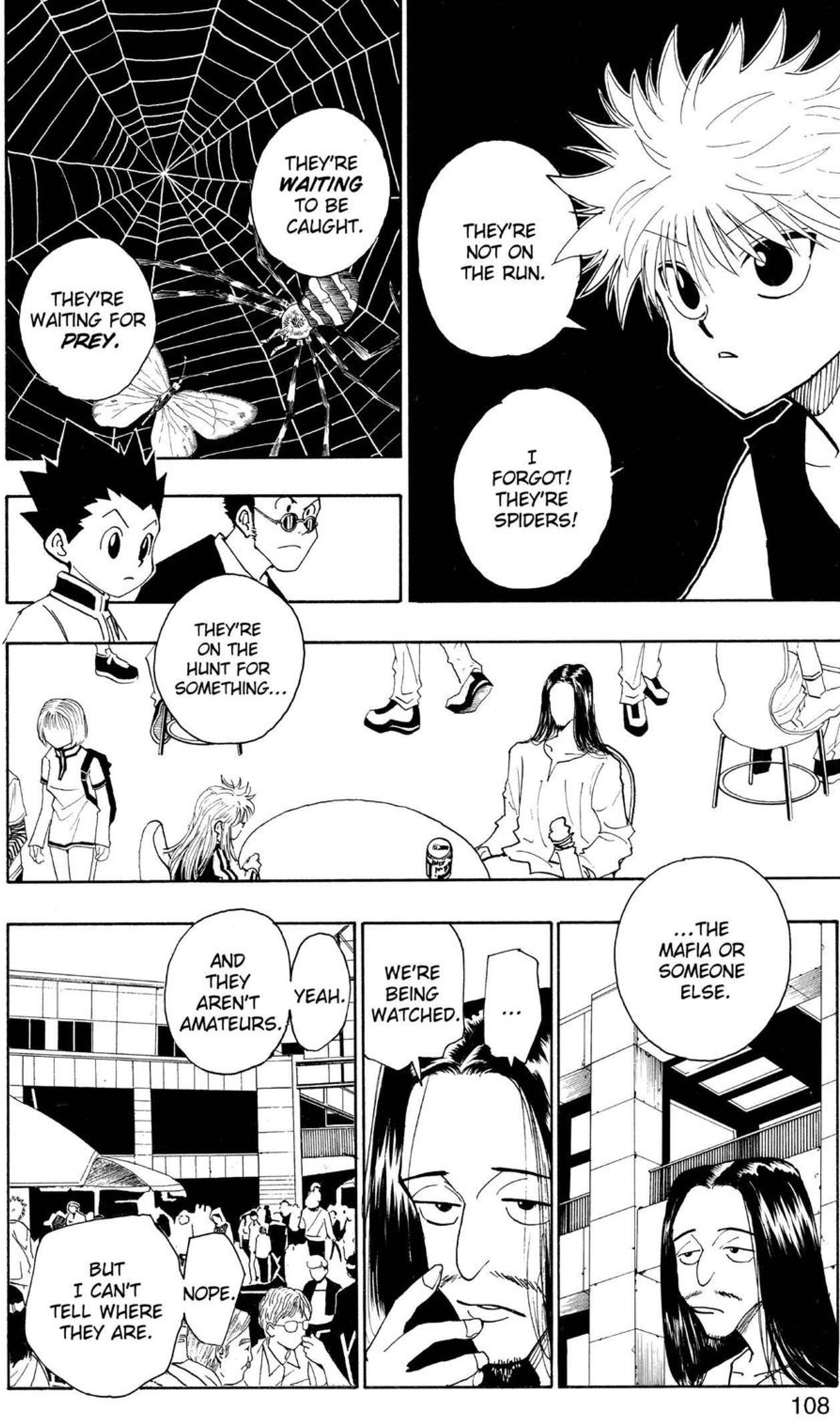

COULD UVO REALLY BE DEAD?
PROBABLY, YEAH.
THAT'S WHAT WE CAME TO FIND OUT.
...
UVO...
...ISN'T STUPID.
I KNOW.
BRRR


EVEN IF HE'S OUTMATCHED...
...HE CAN HANDLE HIMSELF.
HELLO?
HEY, I'M THE GUY WHO POSTED THE AD.
YOU'RE LATE!! WHERE ARE YOU?!
TAKE IT EASY. WE SEE YOU.
IT'S THE COUPLE BEHIND YOUR BOYFRIEND, RIGHT?
WE'RE WIRING YOU THE MONEY NOW.
BIP
BIP
BIP
HOLY—! FIFTEEN MILLION JENNY!
C'MON. LET'S GO!
BUT UVO ISN'T BACK.
HAS HE EVER BEEN LATE BEFORE?
HE SAID HE COULDN'T COME BACK UNTIL HE SETTLED THE SCORE WITH THE CHAIN DUDE. YOU HEARD HIM.

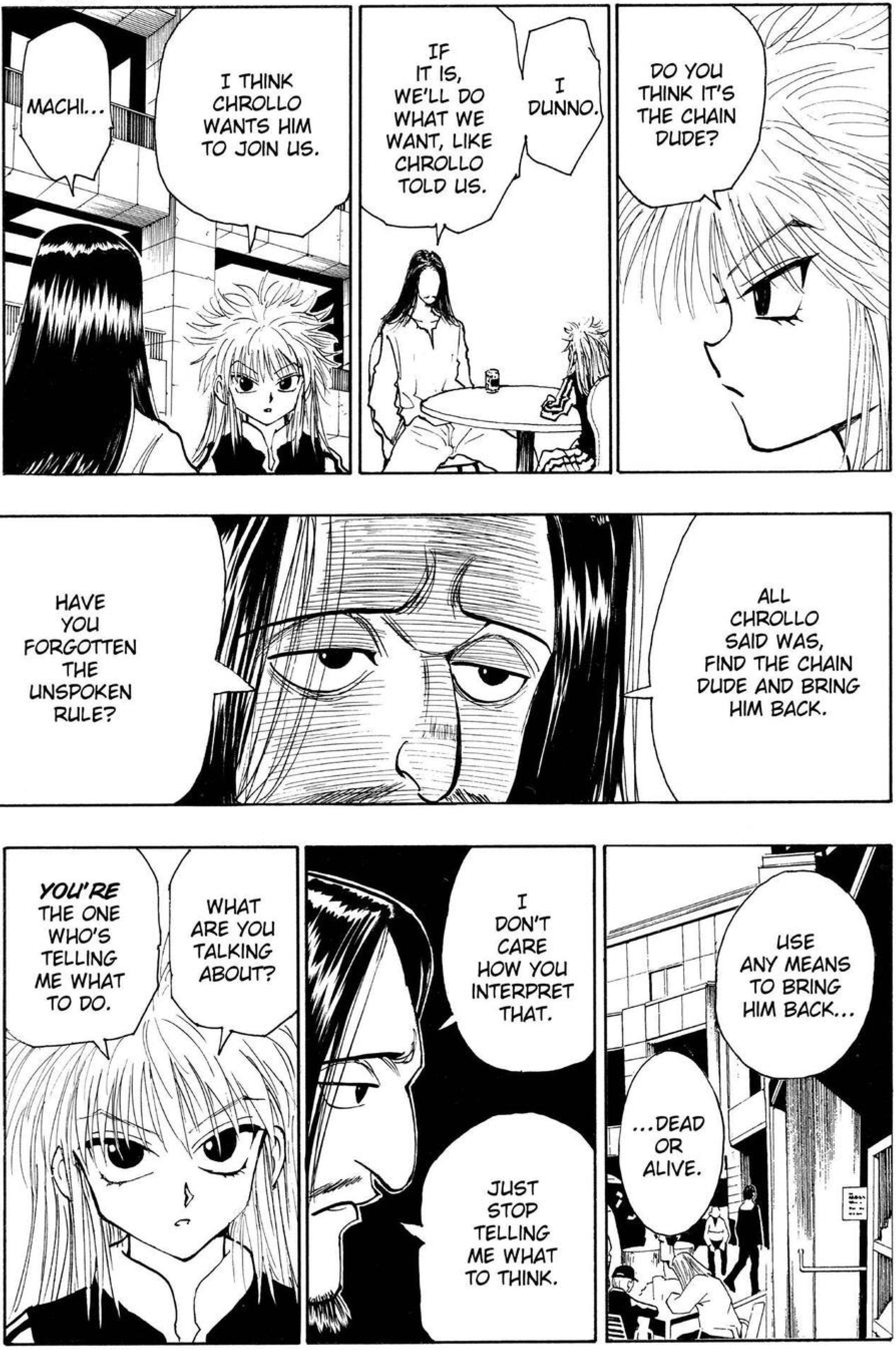

THAT'S WHY I SAID "PROBABLY."
I DIDN'T SAY HE'S DEAD.
BUT THAT'S YOUR HUNCH?
YEAH.
FEH...
YOUR HUNCHES ARE USUALLY RIGHT.
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
WE'RE GONNA TRACK THE GUY DOWN AND KILL HIM...
...WITHOUT FAIL.

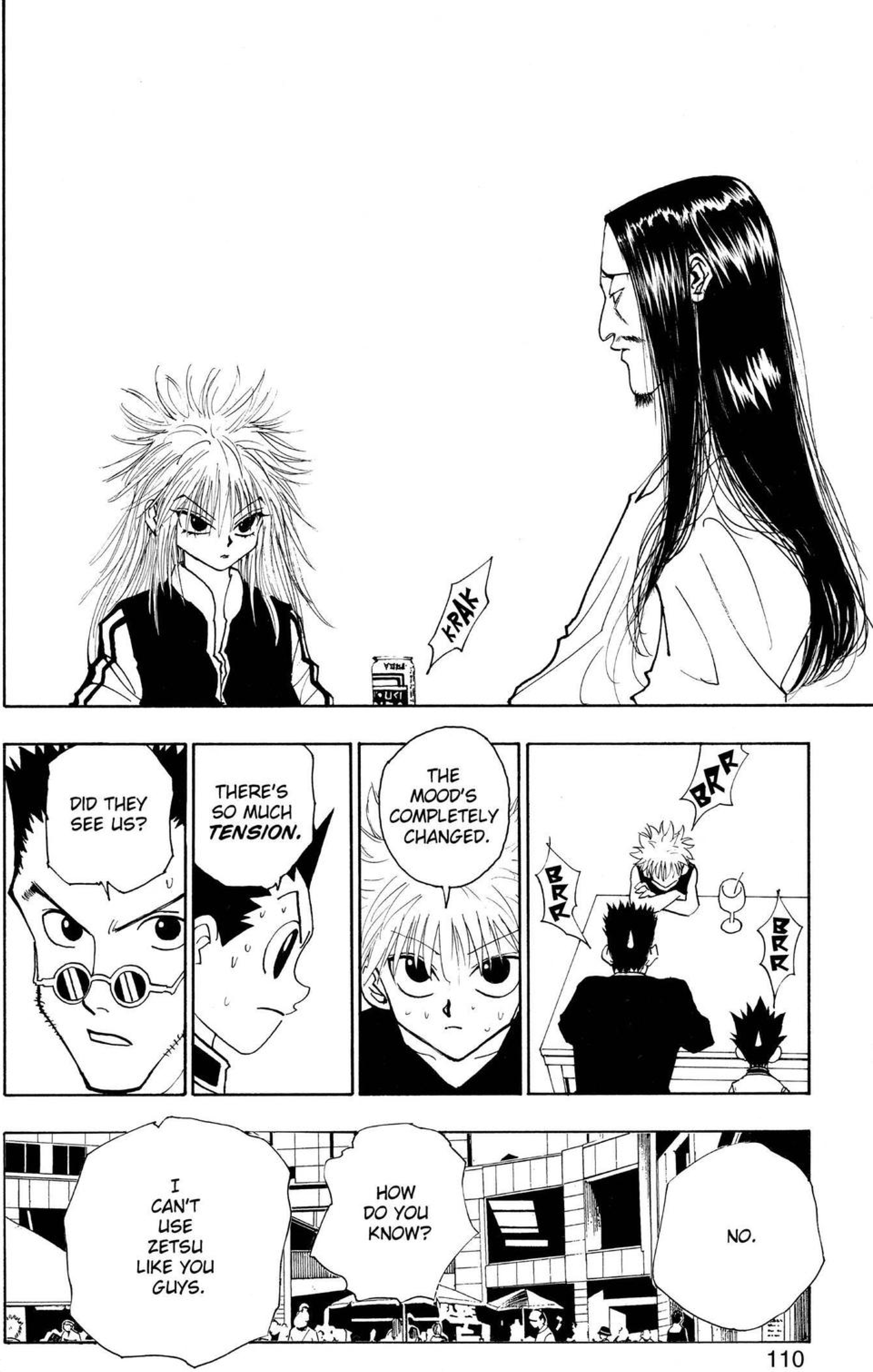

SO THE BILLION JENNY QUESTION IS…
…HOW DO WE NAB 'EM?
…
WE DON'T STAND A CHANCE.
THEY'RE OUT OF OUR LEAGUE.
THEY'RE *THAT* GOOD?
YEAH.
I'VE GOTTEN BETTER SINCE MY DAD WARNED ME ABOUT THEM, BUT IT'S NOT ENOUGH.
SHEESH!! HOW CAN YOU KNOW THAT BEFORE WE EVEN TRY?! AND ISN'T IT KIND OF LATE FOR THAT?!
DON'T **YELL**. THEY'LL SPOT US.
I WASN'T SURE UNTIL I SAW THEM WITH MY OWN EYES.
PRETEND THERE ARE TWO HISOKAS SITTING OVER THERE. DO YOU…
…GET IT NOW?


YEAH, THAT'S MORE THAN WE CAN HANDLE.
HMM.
...
WHY...
WHY DO YOU THINK...
...THEY'RE HANGING OUT IN A PUBLIC SQUARE?
THEY'RE ON A DATE, DUH.
HAVING A CHAT OVER COFFEE.
THEY ARE?
YOU'RE WRONG.
THEY KNOW ABOUT THE COUPLE BEHIND THEM.
!
THEY'RE PAYING MORE ATTENTION TO THEIR SURROUNDINGS THAN ANYONE HERE.
THEY'LL SENSE US IF WE GET ANY CLOSER. AND DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT LOOKING THEIR WAY.
I THOUGHT THEY WERE ON THE LOOKOUT BECAUSE THE MAFIA'S AFTER THEM.
BUT THEN THEY WOULDN'T BE OUT IN PUBLIC.

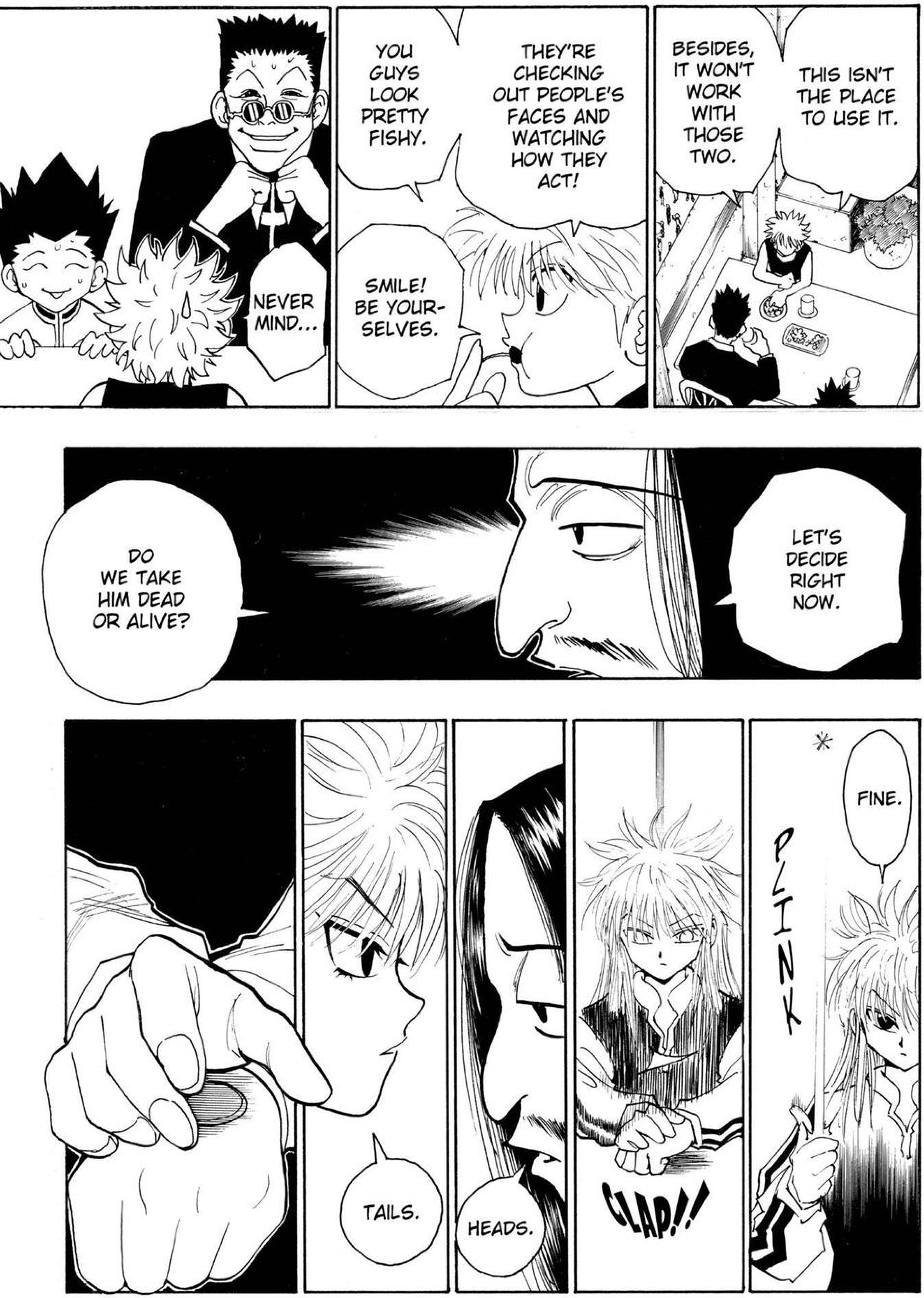

THEY'RE NOT ON THE RUN.
I FORGOT! THEY'RE SPIDERS!
THEY'RE *WAITING* TO BE CAUGHT.
THEY'RE WAITING FOR *PREY.*
THEY'RE ON THE HUNT FOR SOMETHING...
...THE MAFIA OR SOMEONE ELSE.
WE'RE BEING WATCHED.
...
AND THEY AREN'T AMATEURS.
YEAH.
BUT I CAN'T TELL WHERE THEY ARE.
NOPE.

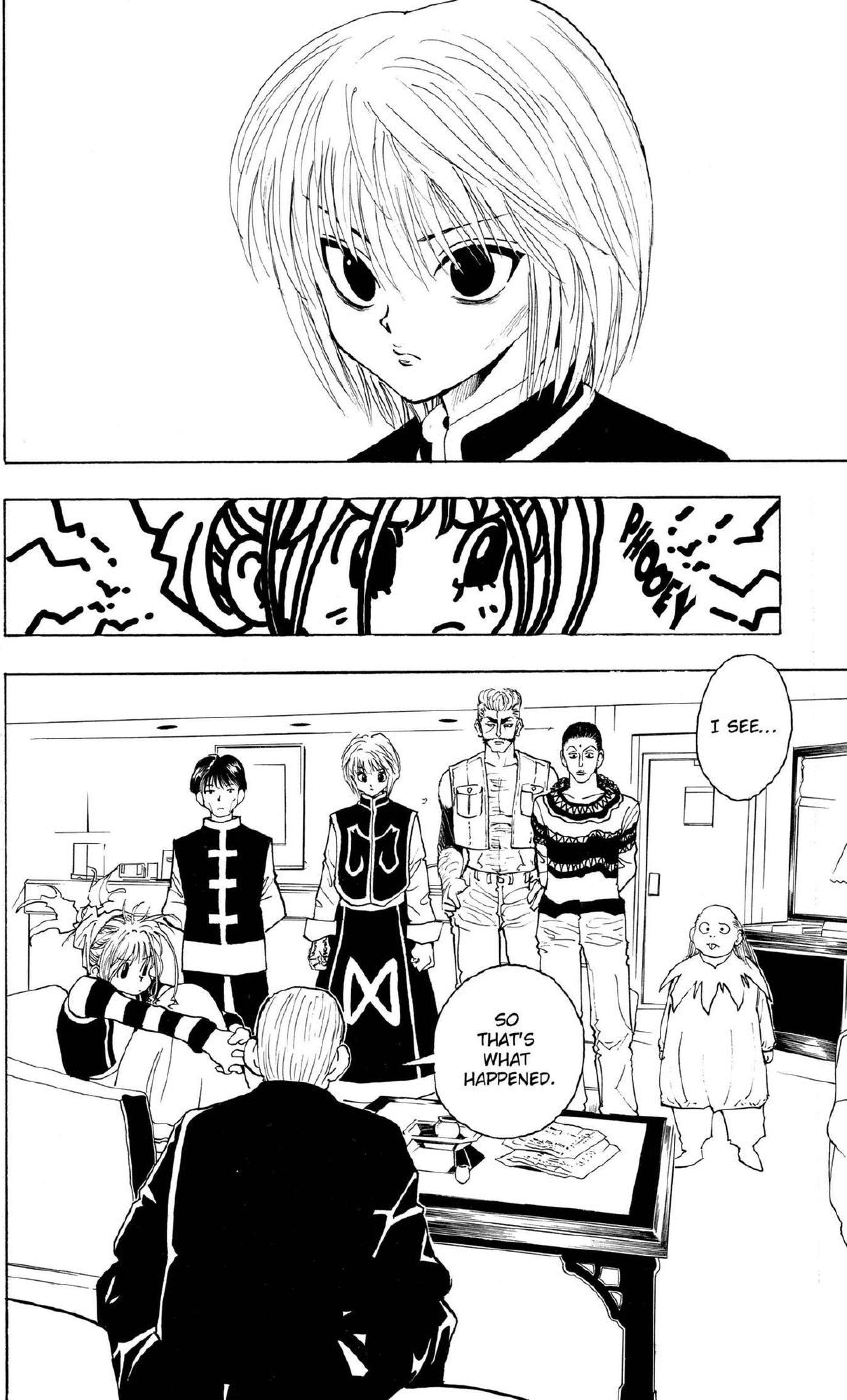
READ THIS WAY

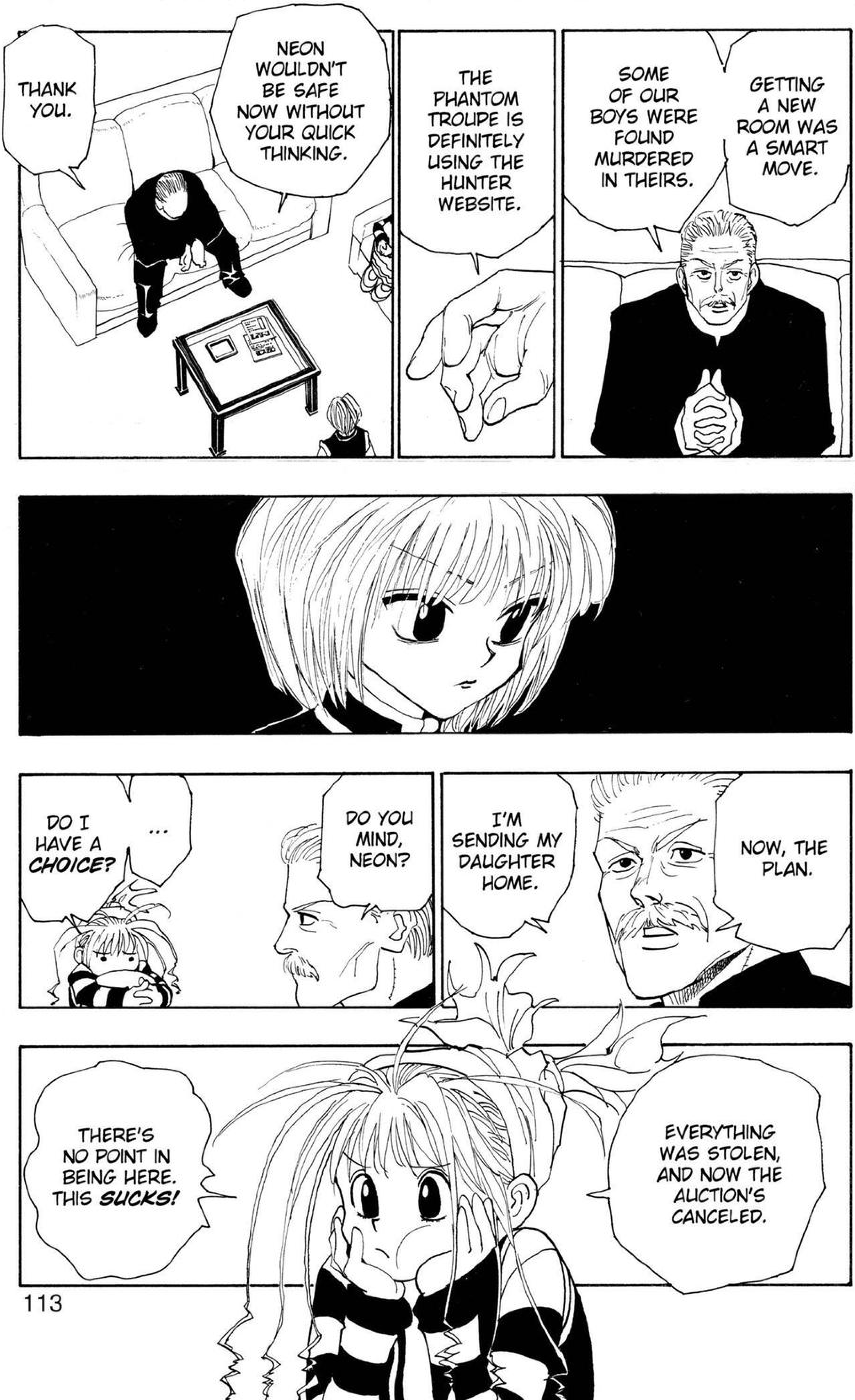

DO YOU THINK IT'S THE CHAIN DUDE?
I DUNNO.
IF IT IS, WE'LL DO WHAT WE WANT, LIKE CHROLLO TOLD US.
I THINK CHROLLO WANTS HIM TO JOIN US.
MACHI...
ALL CHROLLO SAID WAS, FIND THE CHAIN DUDE AND BRING HIM BACK.
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THE UNSPOKEN RULE?
USE ANY MEANS TO BRING HIM BACK...
...DEAD OR ALIVE.
I DON'T CARE HOW YOU INTERPRET THAT.
JUST STOP TELLING ME WHAT TO THINK.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S TELLING ME WHAT TO DO.

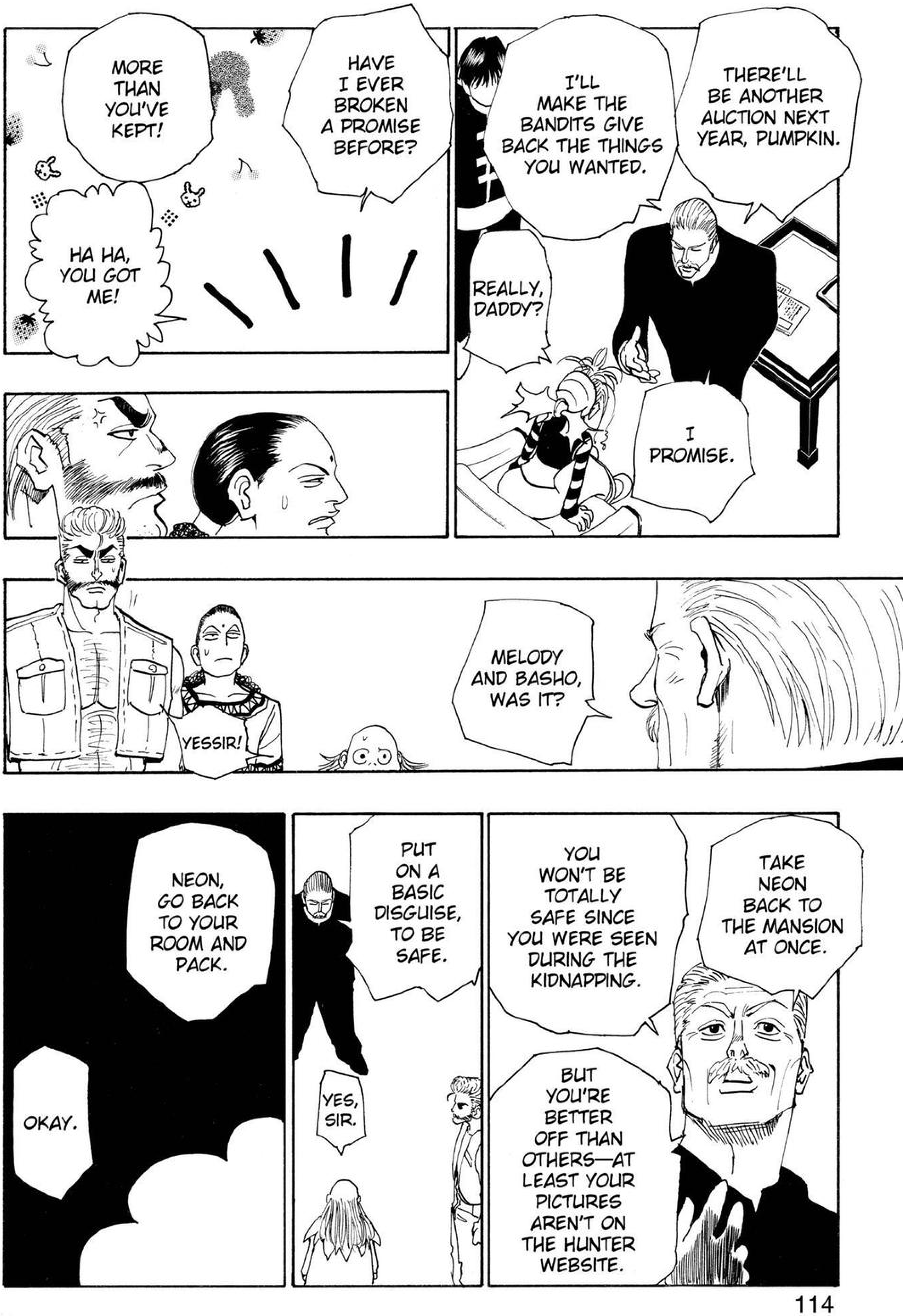

KRAK
BRR
BRR
BRR
THE MOOD'S COMPLETELY CHANGED.
THERE'S SO MUCH *TENSION.*
DID THEY SEE US?
NO.
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
I CAN'T USE ZETSU LIKE YOU GUYS.

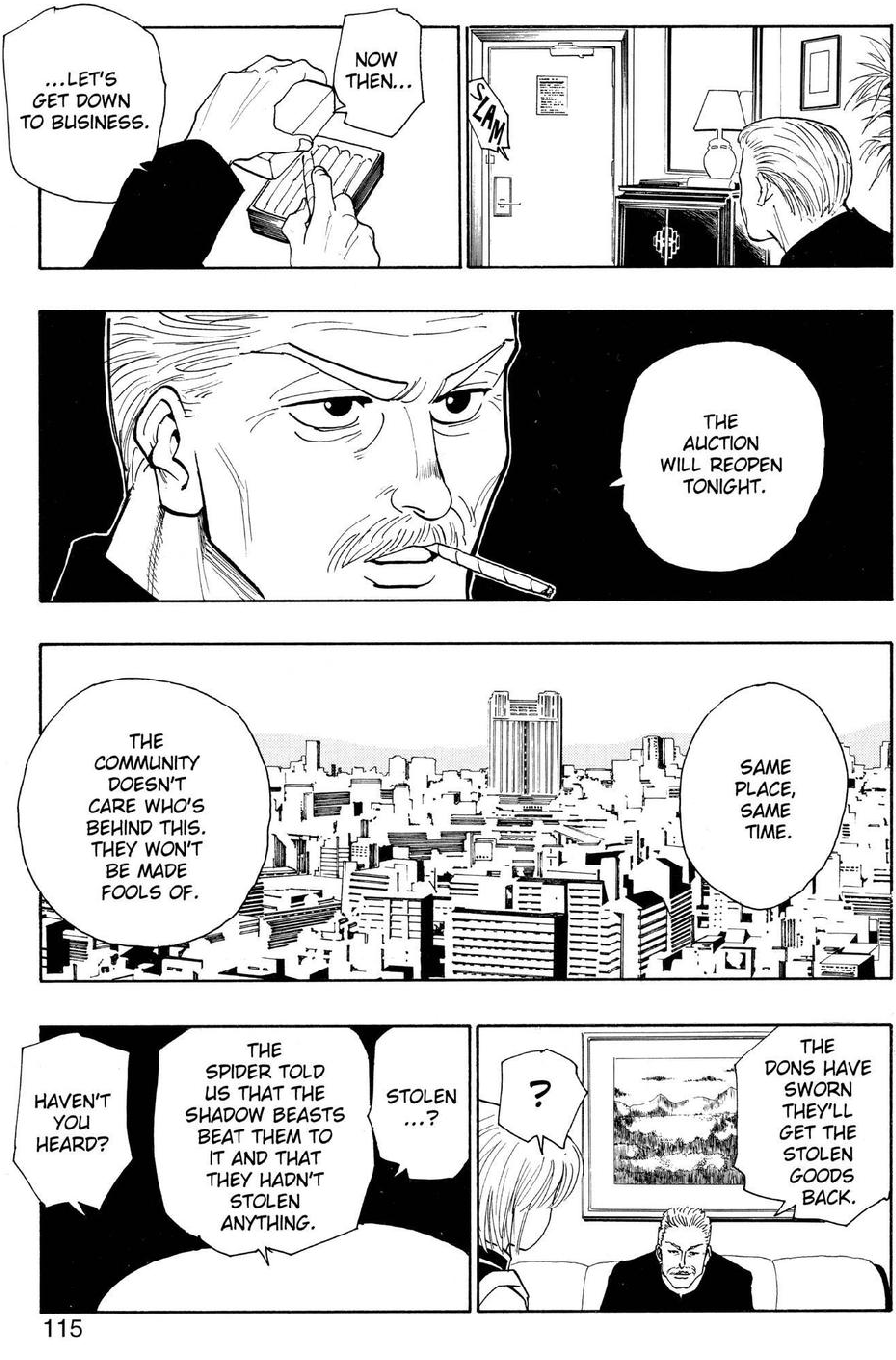
READ THIS WAY

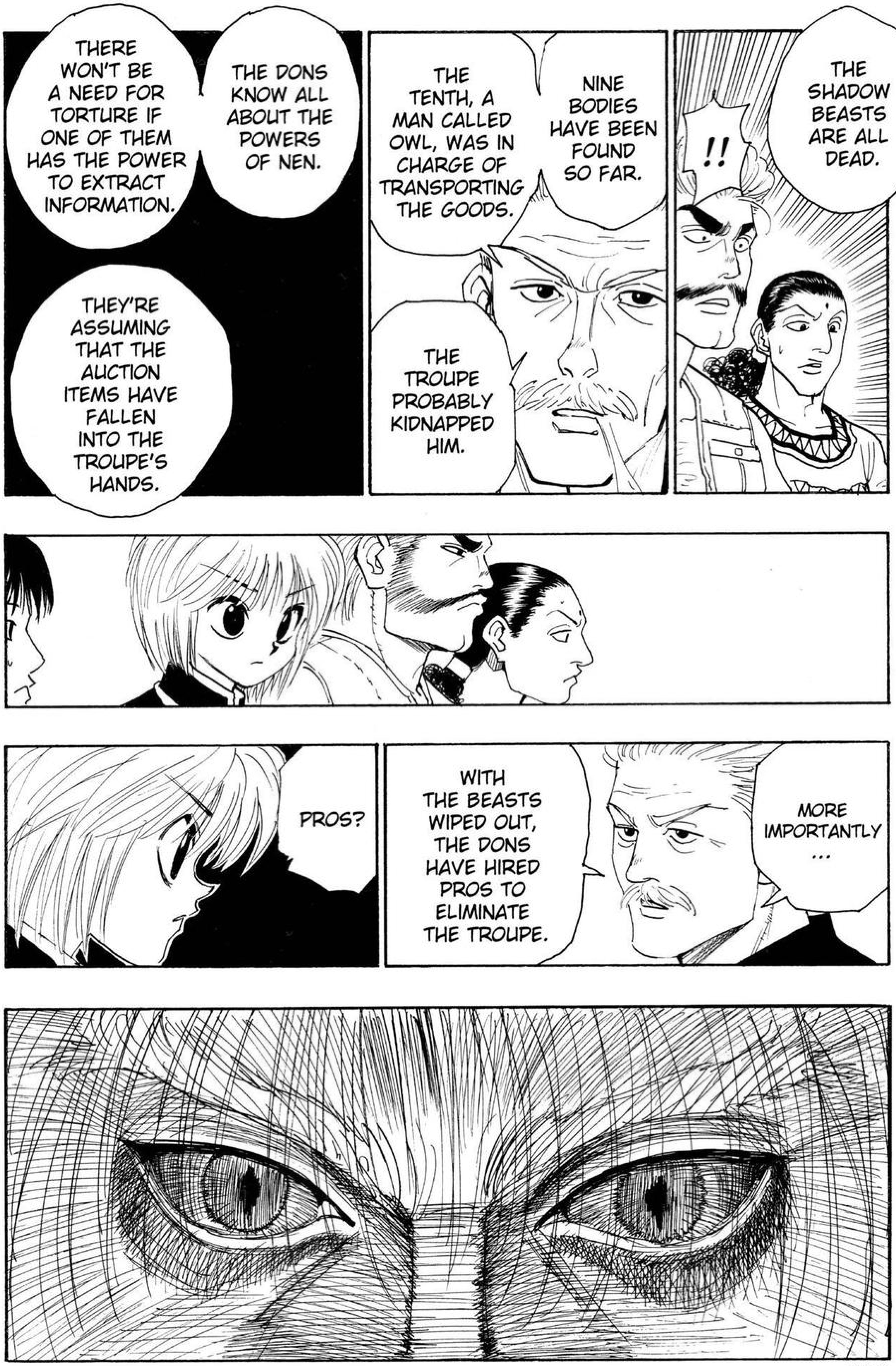

THIS ISN'T THE PLACE TO USE IT.
BESIDES, IT WON'T WORK WITH THOSE TWO.
THEY'RE CHECKING OUT PEOPLE'S FACES AND WATCHING HOW THEY ACT!
YOU GUYS LOOK PRETTY FISHY.
SMILE! BE YOURSELVES.
NEVER MIND...
LET'S DECIDE RIGHT NOW.
DO WE TAKE HIM DEAD OR ALIVE?
FINE.
PLINK
CLAP!!
HEADS.
TAILS.

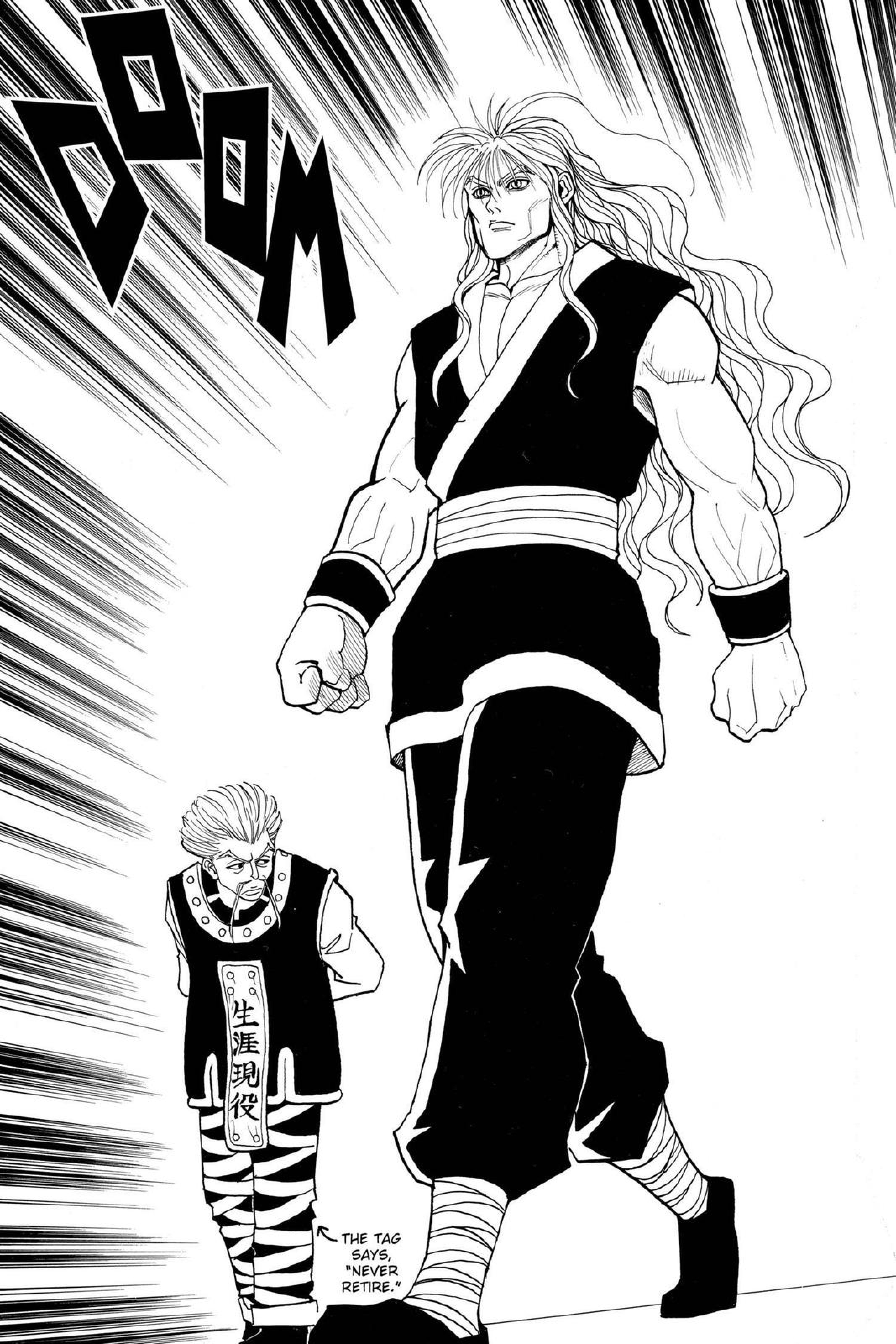

PHOOEY
I SEE...
SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.

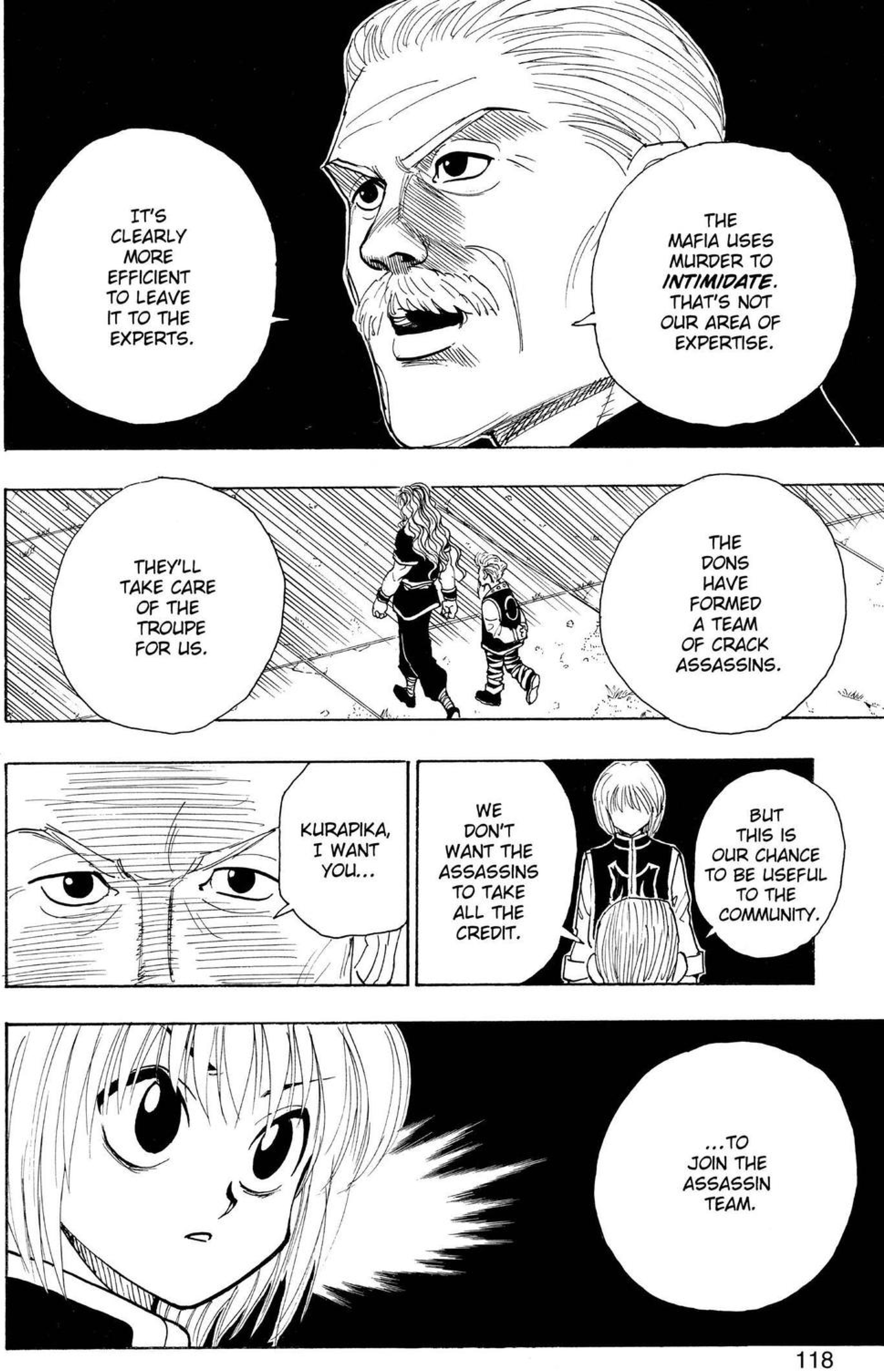

GETTING A NEW ROOM WAS A SMART MOVE.
SOME OF OUR BOYS WERE FOUND MURDERED IN THEIRS.
THE PHANTOM TROUPE IS DEFINITELY USING THE HUNTER WEBSITE.
NEON WOULDN'T BE SAFE NOW WITHOUT YOUR QUICK THINKING.
THANK YOU.
NOW, THE PLAN.
I'M SENDING MY DAUGHTER HOME.
DO YOU MIND, NEON?
...
DO I HAVE A *CHOICE?*
EVERYTHING WAS STOLEN, AND NOW THE AUCTION'S CANCELED.
THERE'S NO POINT IN BEING HERE. THIS *SUCKS!*

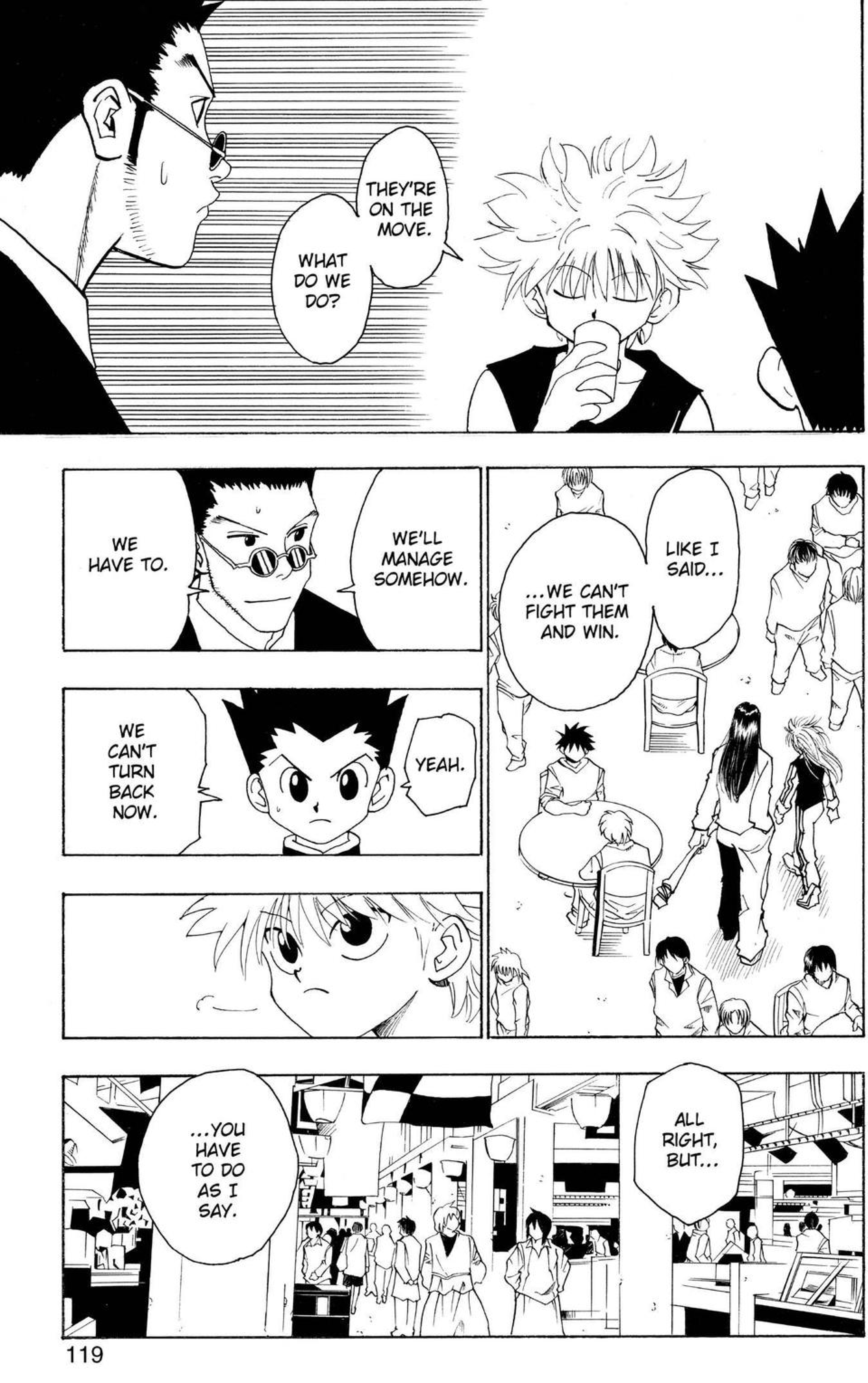

THERE'LL BE ANOTHER AUCTION NEXT YEAR, PUMPKIN.
I'LL MAKE THE BANDITS GIVE BACK THE THINGS YOU WANTED.
REALLY, DADDY?
I PROMISE.
HAVE I EVER BROKEN A PROMISE BEFORE?
MORE THAN YOU'VE KEPT!
HA HA, YOU GOT ME!
MELODY AND BASHO, WAS IT?
YESSIR!
TAKE NEON BACK TO THE MANSION AT ONCE.
YOU WON'T BE TOTALLY SAFE SINCE YOU WERE SEEN DURING THE KIDNAPPING.
BUT YOU'RE BETTER OFF THAN OTHERS—AT LEAST YOUR PICTURES AREN'T ON THE HUNTER WEBSITE.
PUT ON A BASIC DISGUISE, TO BE SAFE.
YES, SIR.
NEON, GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM AND PACK.
OKAY.

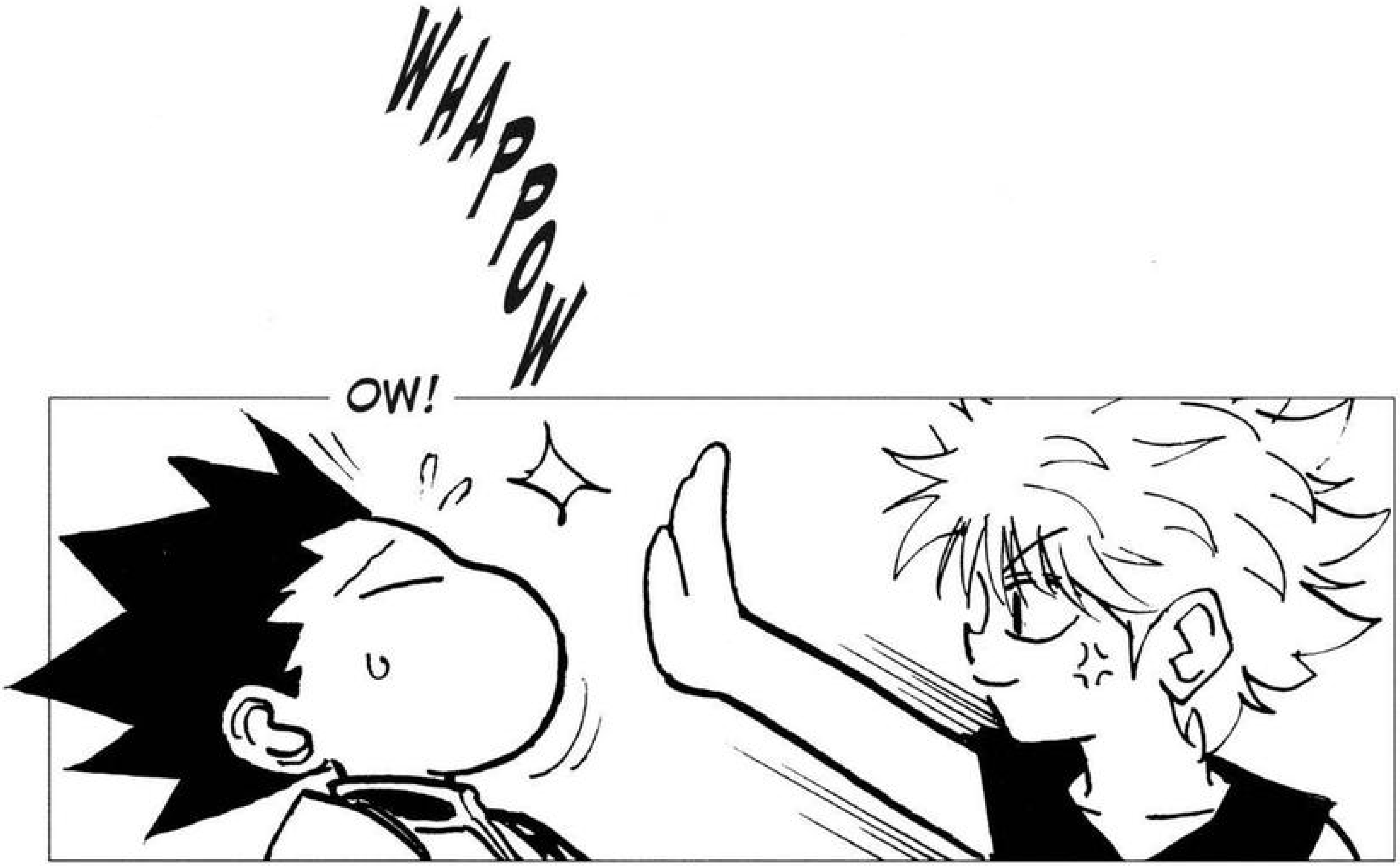

SLAM
NOW THEN...
...LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS.
THE AUCTION WILL REOPEN TONIGHT.
SAME PLACE, SAME TIME.
THE COMMUNITY DOESN'T CARE WHO'S BEHIND THIS. THEY WON'T BE MADE FOOLS OF.
THE DONS HAVE SWORN THEY'LL GET THE STOLEN GOODS BACK.
?
STOLEN ...?
THE SPIDER TOLD US THAT THE SHADOW BEASTS BEAT THEM TO IT AND THAT THEY HADN'T STOLEN ANYTHING.
HAVEN'T YOU HEARD?


THE SHADOW BEASTS ARE ALL DEAD.
!!
NINE BODIES HAVE BEEN FOUND SO FAR.
THE TENTH, A MAN CALLED OWL, WAS IN CHARGE OF TRANSPORTING THE GOODS.
THE TROUPE PROBABLY KIDNAPPED HIM.
THE DONS KNOW ALL ABOUT THE POWERS OF NEN.
THERE WON'T BE A NEED FOR TORTURE IF ONE OF THEM HAS THE POWER TO EXTRACT INFORMATION.
THEY'RE ASSUMING THAT THE AUCTION ITEMS HAVE FALLEN INTO THE TROUPE'S HANDS.
MORE IMPORTANTLY ...
WITH THE BEASTS WIPED OUT, THE DONS HAVE HIRED PROS TO ELIMINATE THE TROUPE.
PROS?

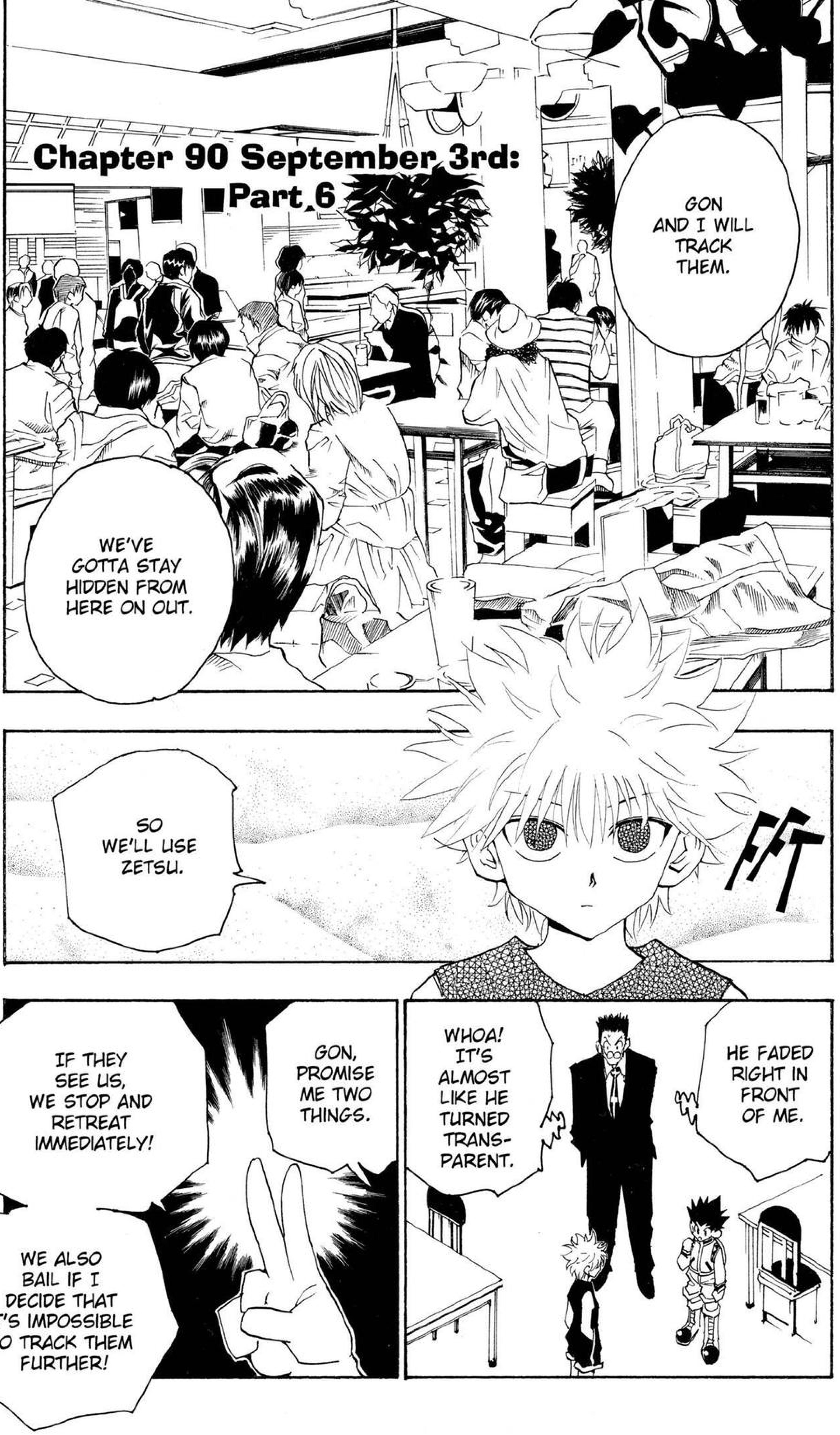

DOOOM
生涯現役
THE TAG SAYS, "NEVER RETIRE."

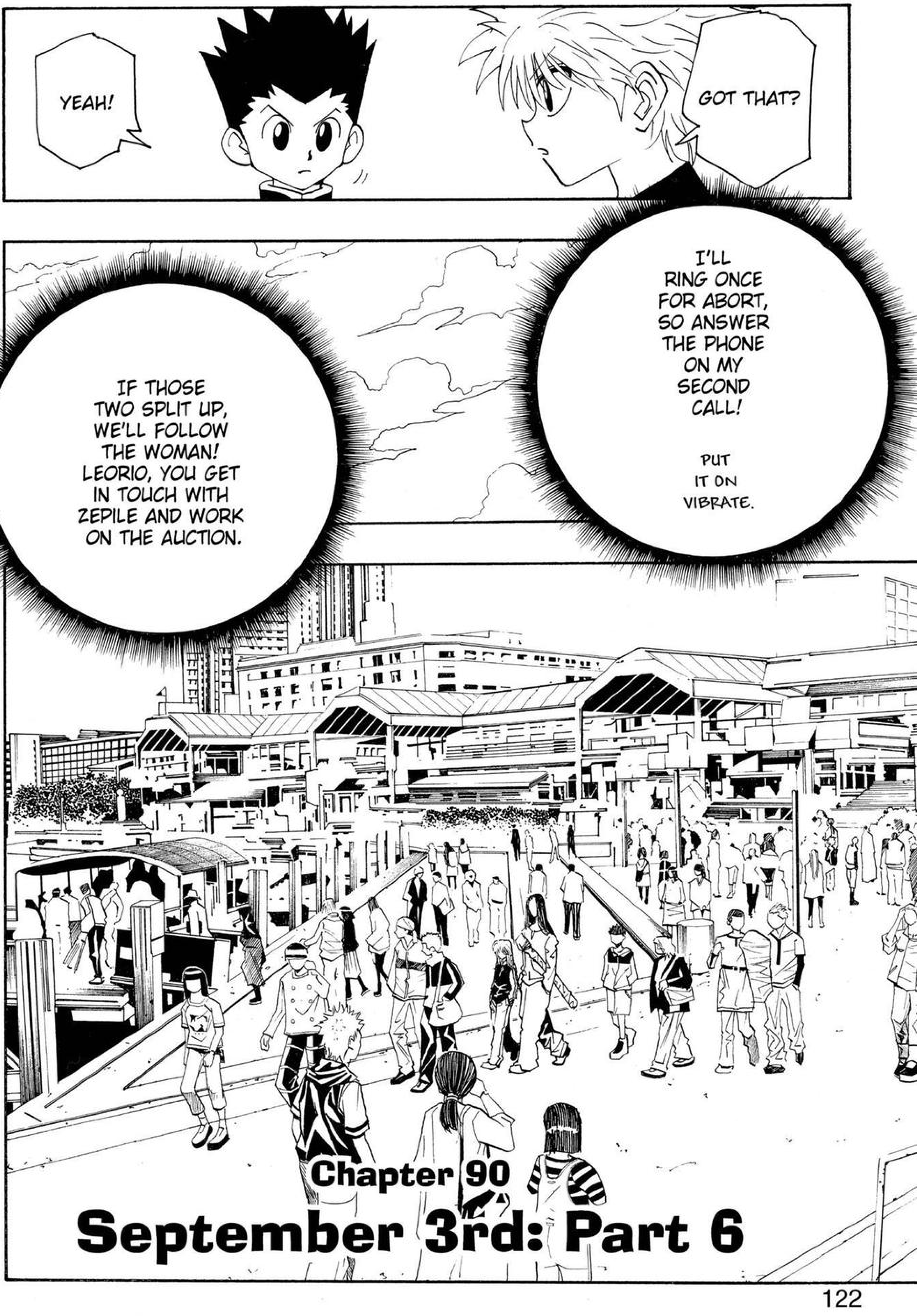

THE MAFIA USES MURDER TO **INTIMIDATE.** THAT'S NOT OUR AREA OF EXPERTISE.
IT'S CLEARLY MORE EFFICIENT TO LEAVE IT TO THE EXPERTS.
THE DONS HAVE FORMED A TEAM OF CRACK ASSASSINS.
THEY'LL TAKE CARE OF THE TROUPE FOR US.
BUT THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO BE USEFUL TO THE COMMUNITY.
WE DON'T WANT THE ASSASSINS TO TAKE ALL THE CREDIT.
KURAPIKA, I WANT YOU...
...TO JOIN THE ASSASSIN TEAM.


THEY'RE ON THE MOVE.
WHAT DO WE DO?
LIKE I SAID...
...WE CAN'T FIGHT THEM AND WIN.
WE'LL MANAGE SOMEHOW.
WE HAVE TO.
YEAH.
WE CAN'T TURN BACK NOW.
ALL RIGHT, BUT...
...YOU HAVE TO DO AS I SAY.


WHAPPOW
OW!

Chapter 90 September 3rd: Part 6

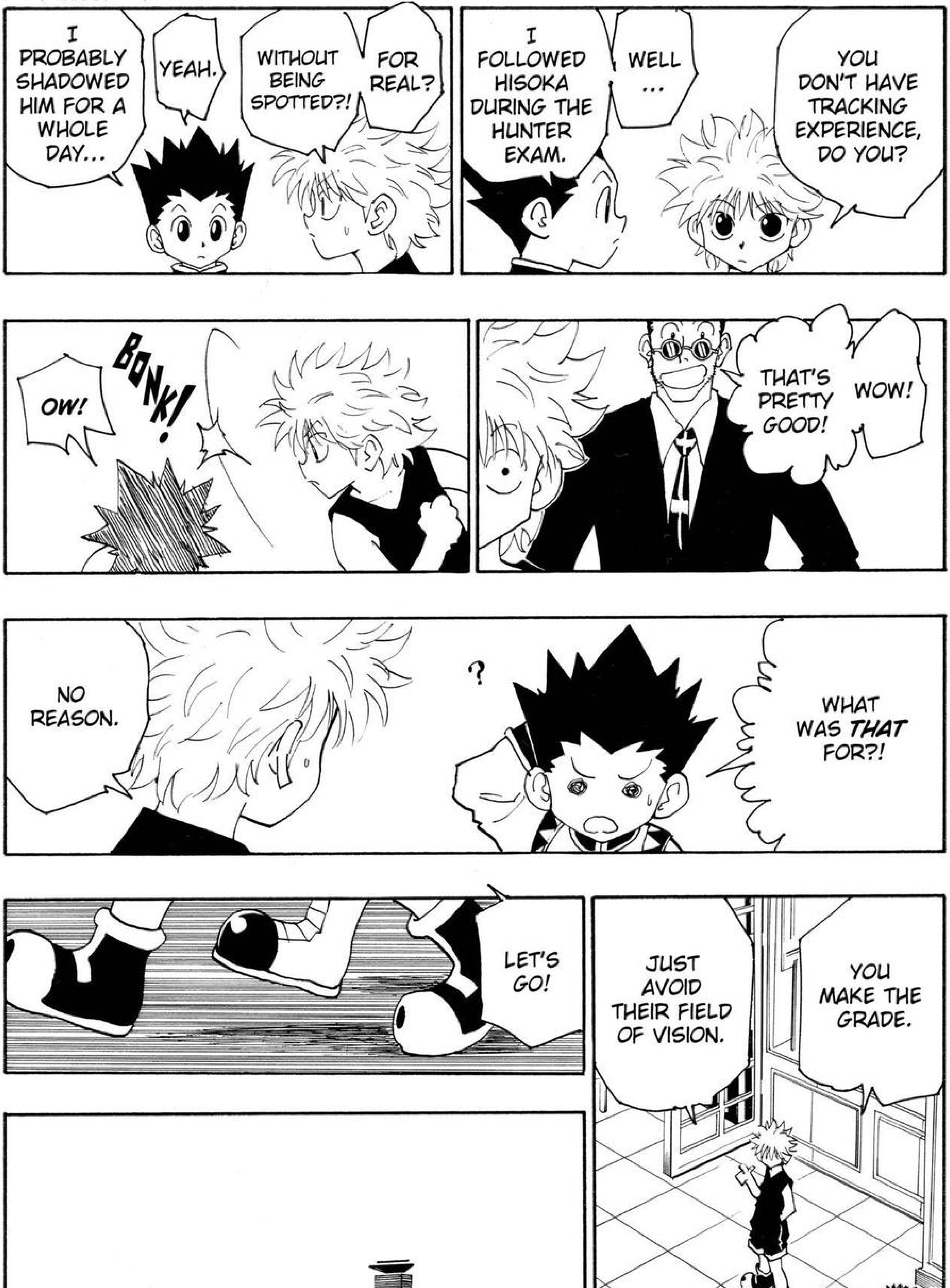

GON AND I WILL TRACK THEM.
WE'VE GOTTA STAY HIDDEN FROM HERE ON OUT.
SO WE'LL USE ZETSU.
FFT
HE FADED RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.
WHOA! IT'S ALMOST LIKE HE TURNED TRANSPARENT.
GON, PROMISE ME TWO THINGS.
IF THEY SEE US, WE STOP AND RETREAT IMMEDIATELY!
WE ALSO BAIL IF I DECIDE THAT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO TRACK THEM FURTHER!

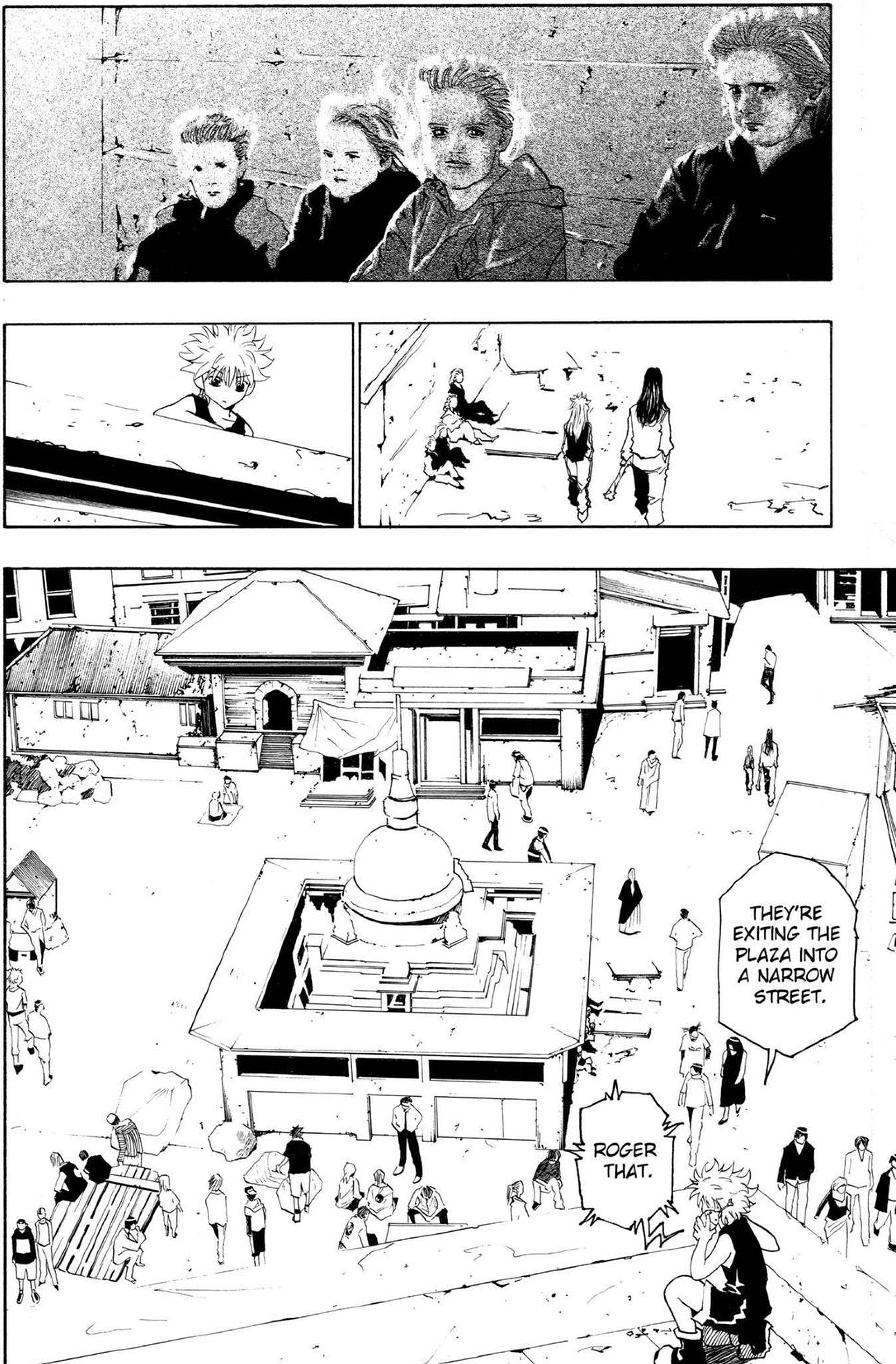

GOT THAT?
YEAH!
I'LL RING ONCE FOR ABORT, SO ANSWER THE PHONE ON MY SECOND CALL!
PUT IT ON VIBRATE.
IF THOSE TWO SPLIT UP, WE'LL FOLLOW THE WOMAN! LEORIO, YOU GET IN TOUCH WITH ZEPILE AND WORK ON THE AUCTION.

Chapter 90

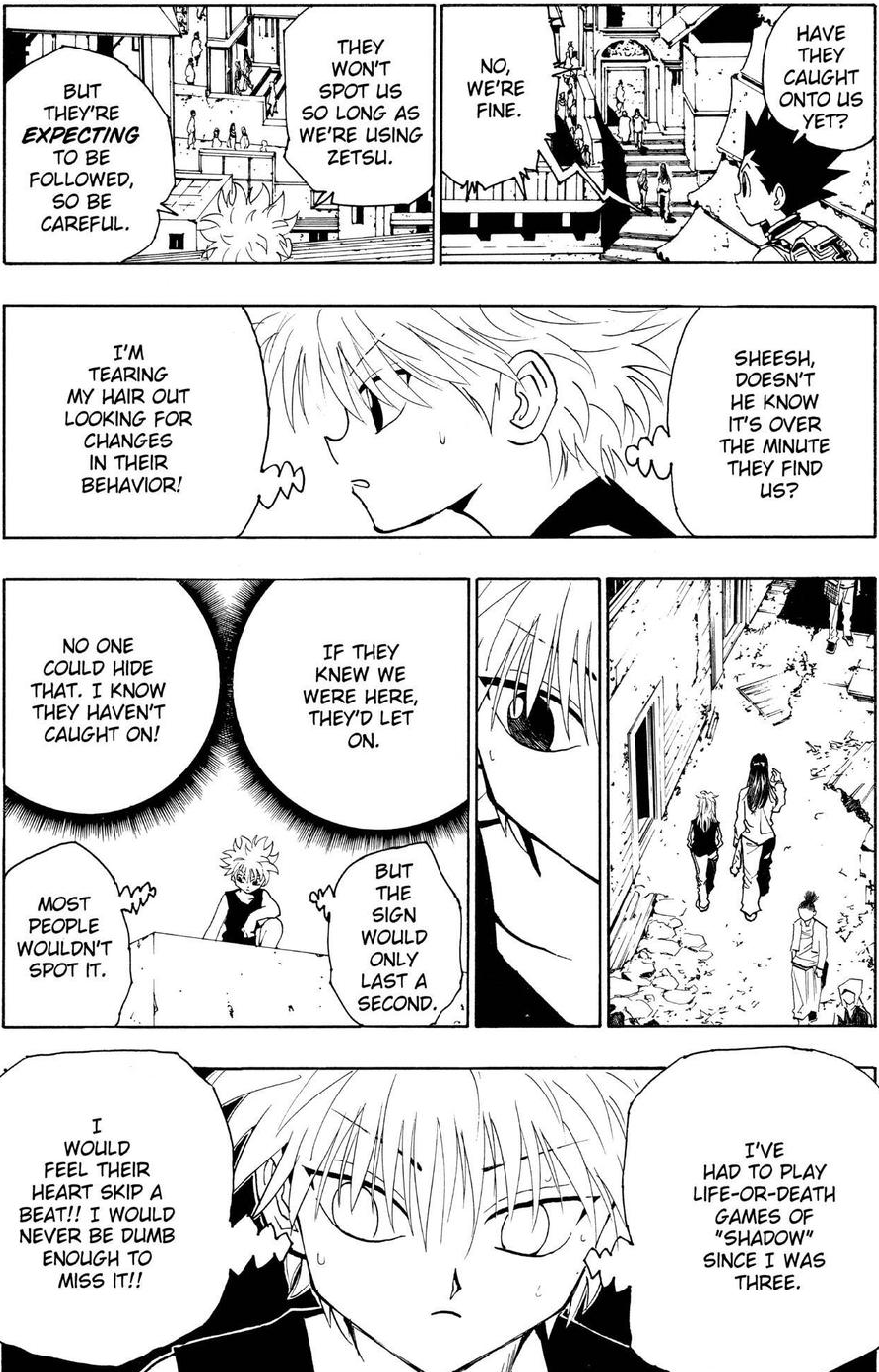
September 3rd: Part 6

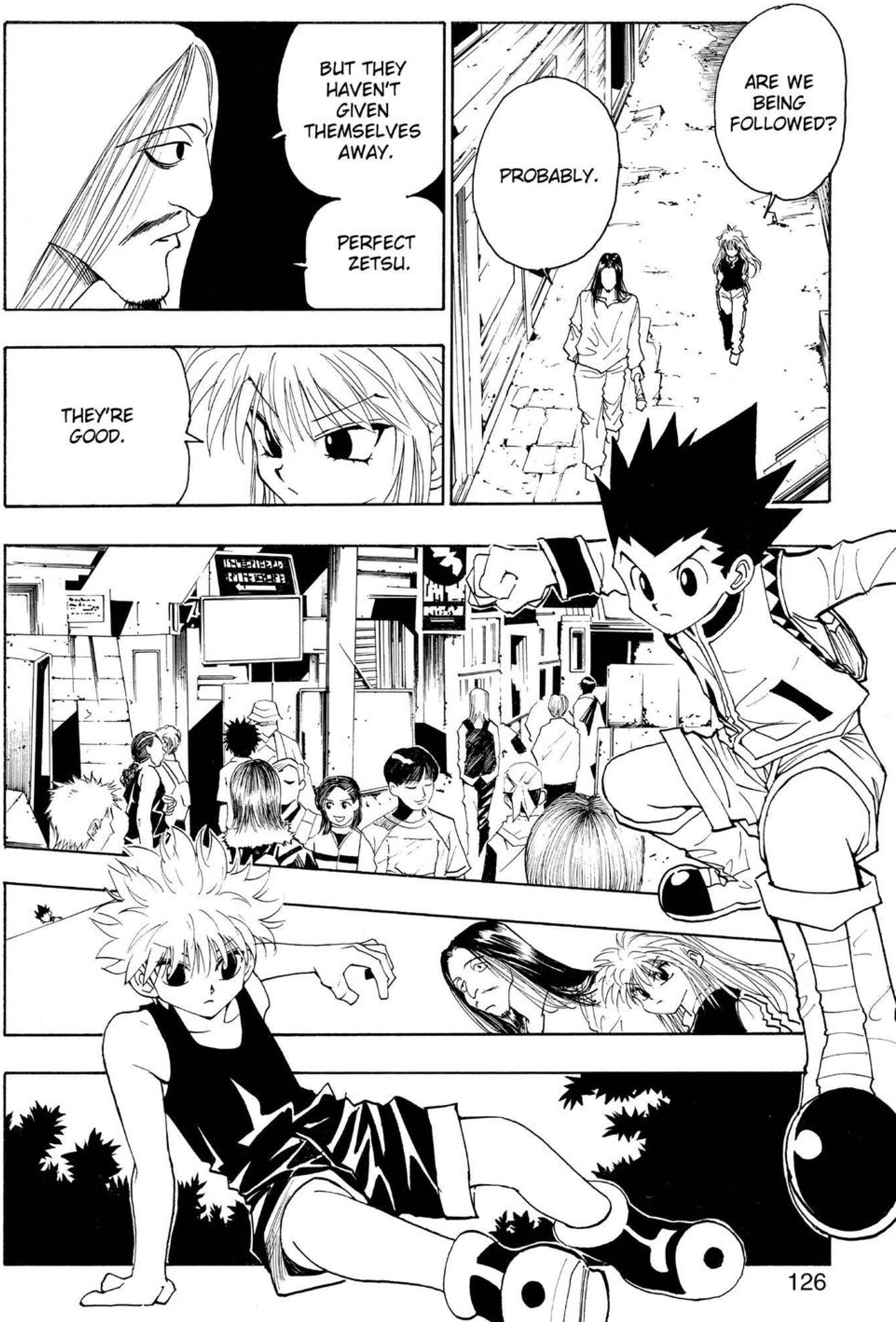
READ THIS WAY


YOU DON'T HAVE TRACKING EXPERIENCE, DO YOU?
WELL ...
I FOLLOWED HISOKA DURING THE HUNTER EXAM.
FOR REAL?
WITHOUT BEING SPOTTED?!
YEAH.
I PROBABLY SHADOWED HIM FOR A WHOLE DAY...
WOW!
THAT'S PRETTY GOOD!
BONK!
OW!
WHAT WAS *THAT* FOR?!
?
NO REASON.
YOU MAKE THE GRADE.
JUST AVOID THEIR FIELD OF VISION.
LET'S GO!

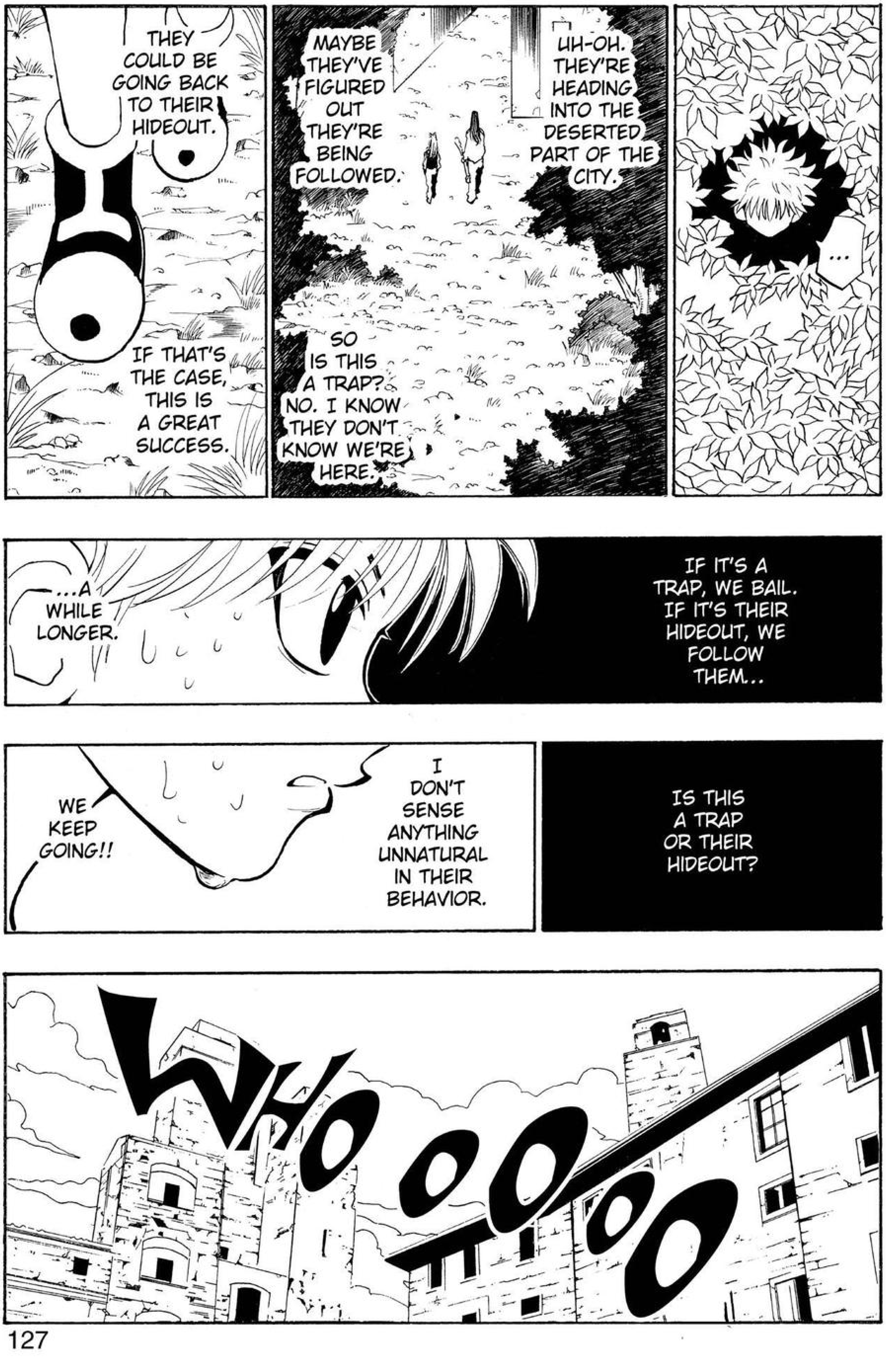

THEY'RE EXITING THE PLAZA INTO A NARROW STREET.
ROGER THAT.

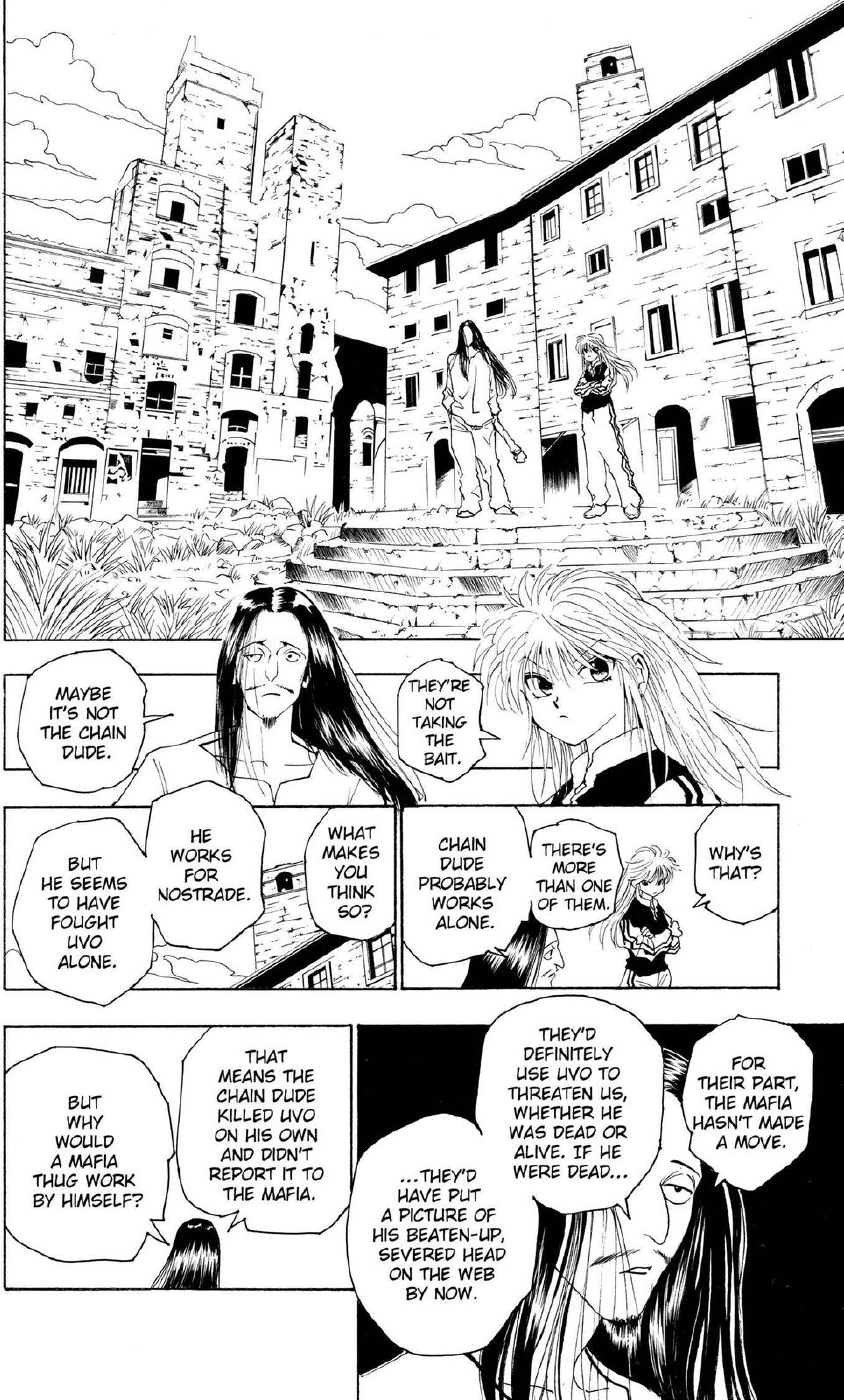
READ THIS WAY

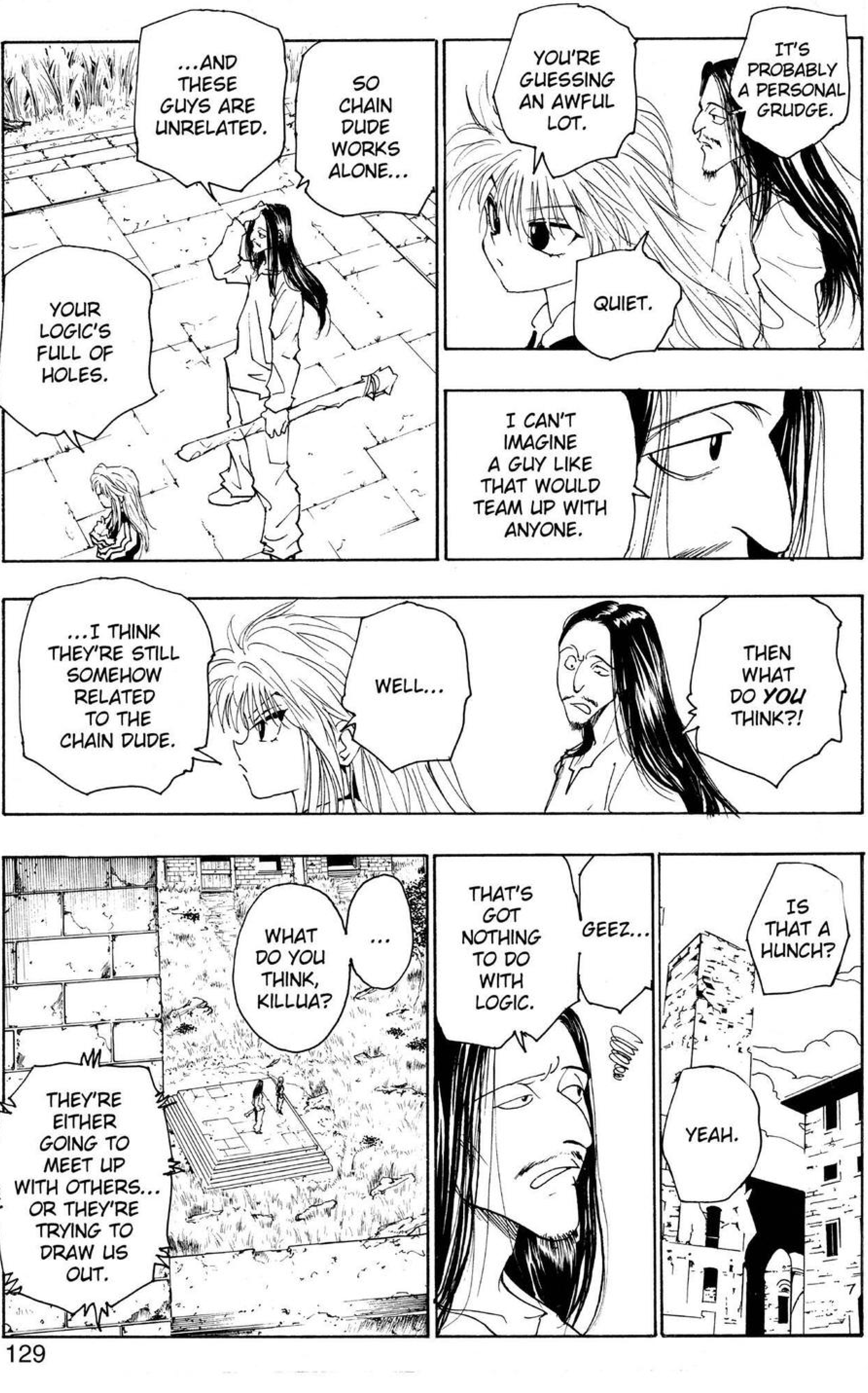

HAVE THEY CAUGHT ONTO US YET?
NO, WE'RE FINE.
THEY WON'T SPOT US SO LONG AS WE'RE USING ZETSU.
BUT THEY'RE *EXPECTING* TO BE FOLLOWED, SO BE CAREFUL.
SHEESH, DOESN'T HE KNOW IT'S OVER THE MINUTE THEY FIND US?
I'M TEARING MY HAIR OUT LOOKING FOR CHANGES IN THEIR BEHAVIOR!
IF THEY KNEW WE WERE HERE, THEY'D LET ON.
NO ONE COULD HIDE THAT. I KNOW THEY HAVEN'T CAUGHT ON!
BUT THE SIGN WOULD ONLY LAST A SECOND.
MOST PEOPLE WOULDN'T SPOT IT.
I'VE HAD TO PLAY LIFE-OR-DEATH GAMES OF "SHADOW" SINCE I WAS THREE.
I WOULD FEEL THEIR HEART SKIP A BEAT!! I WOULD NEVER BE DUMB ENOUGH TO MISS IT!!

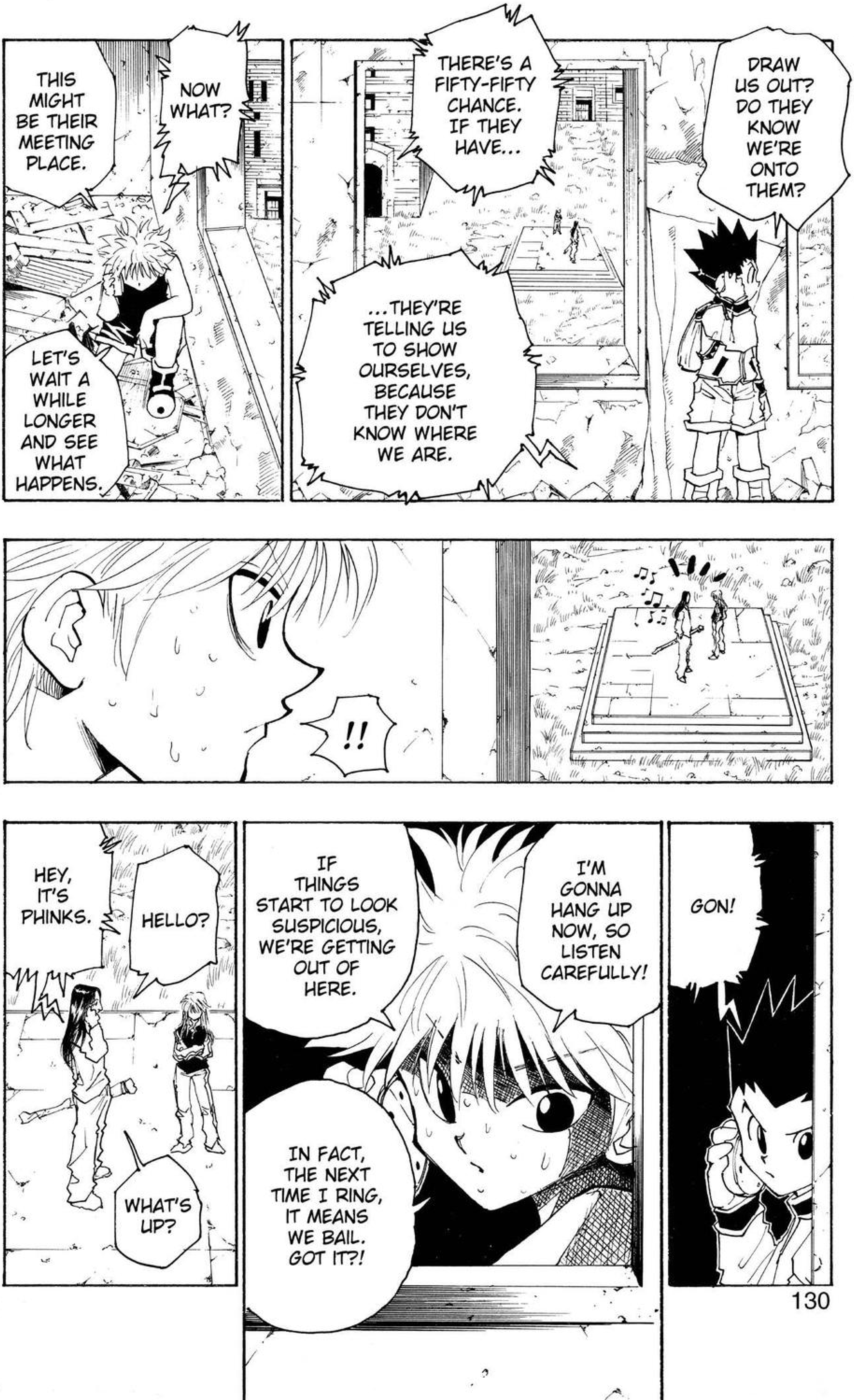

ARE WE BEING FOLLOWED?
PROBABLY.
BUT THEY HAVEN'T GIVEN THEMSELVES AWAY.
PERFECT ZETSU.
THEY'RE GOOD.

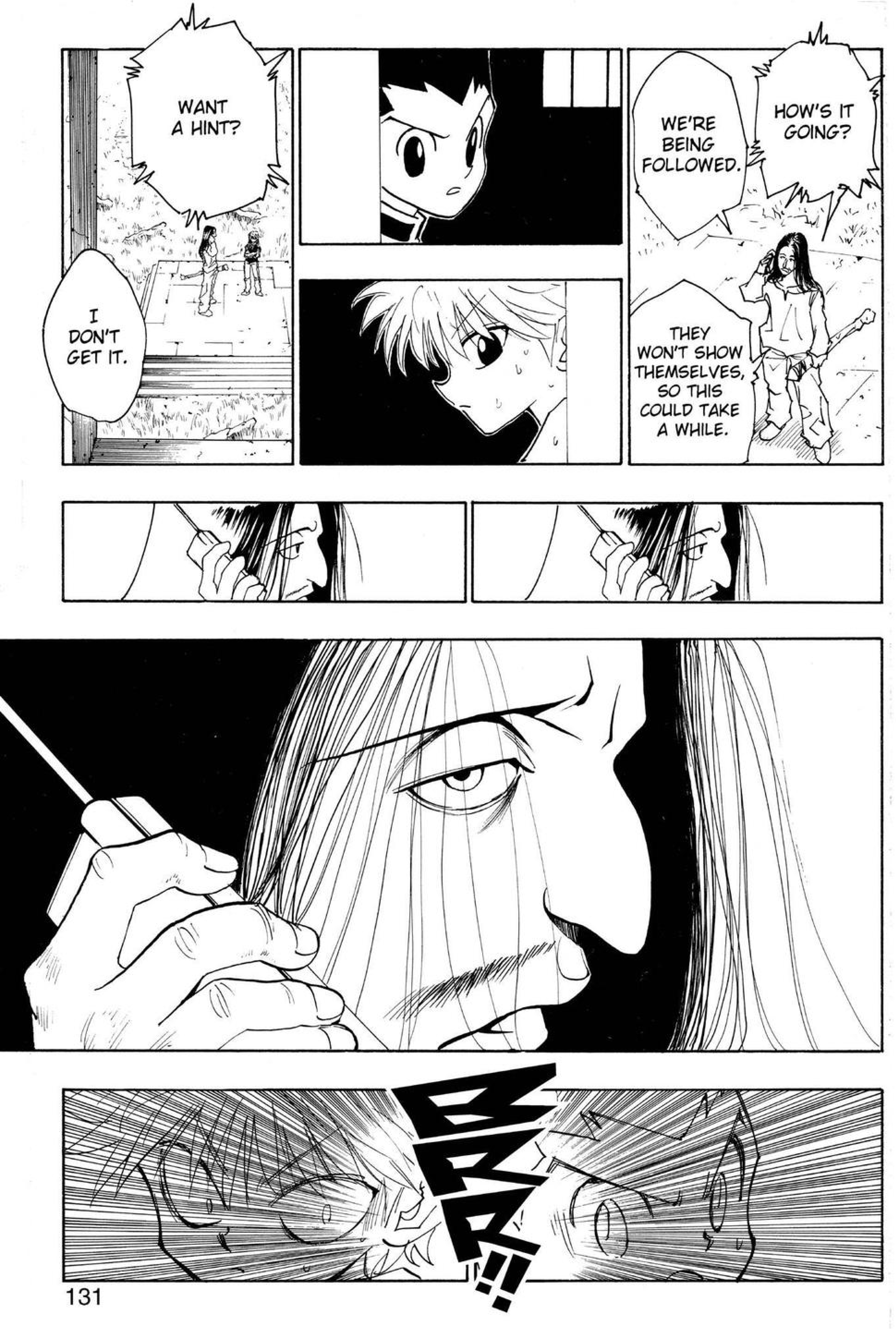
READ THIS WAY

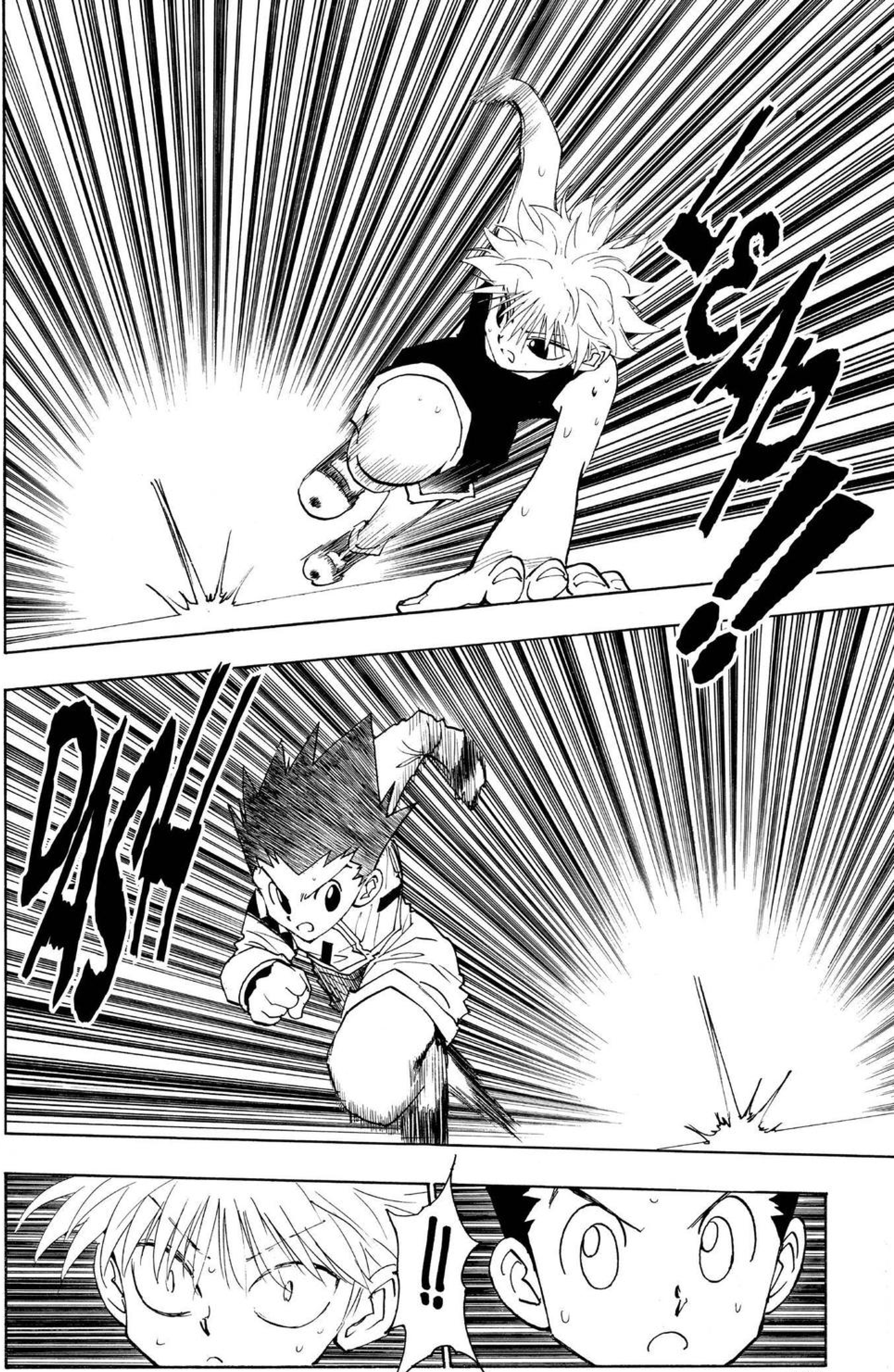

...
UH-OH. THEY'RE HEADING INTO THE DESERTED PART OF THE CITY.
MAYBE THEY'VE FIGURED OUT THEY'RE BEING FOLLOWED.
SO IS THIS A TRAP? NO. I KNOW THEY DON'T KNOW WE'RE HERE.
THEY COULD BE GOING BACK TO THEIR HIDEOUT.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THIS IS A GREAT SUCCESS.
IF IT'S A TRAP, WE BAIL. IF IT'S THEIR HIDEOUT, WE FOLLOW THEM...
...A WHILE LONGER.
IS THIS A TRAP OR THEIR HIDEOUT?
I DON'T SENSE ANYTHING UNNATURAL IN THEIR BEHAVIOR.
WE KEEP GOING!!
WHOOOOO

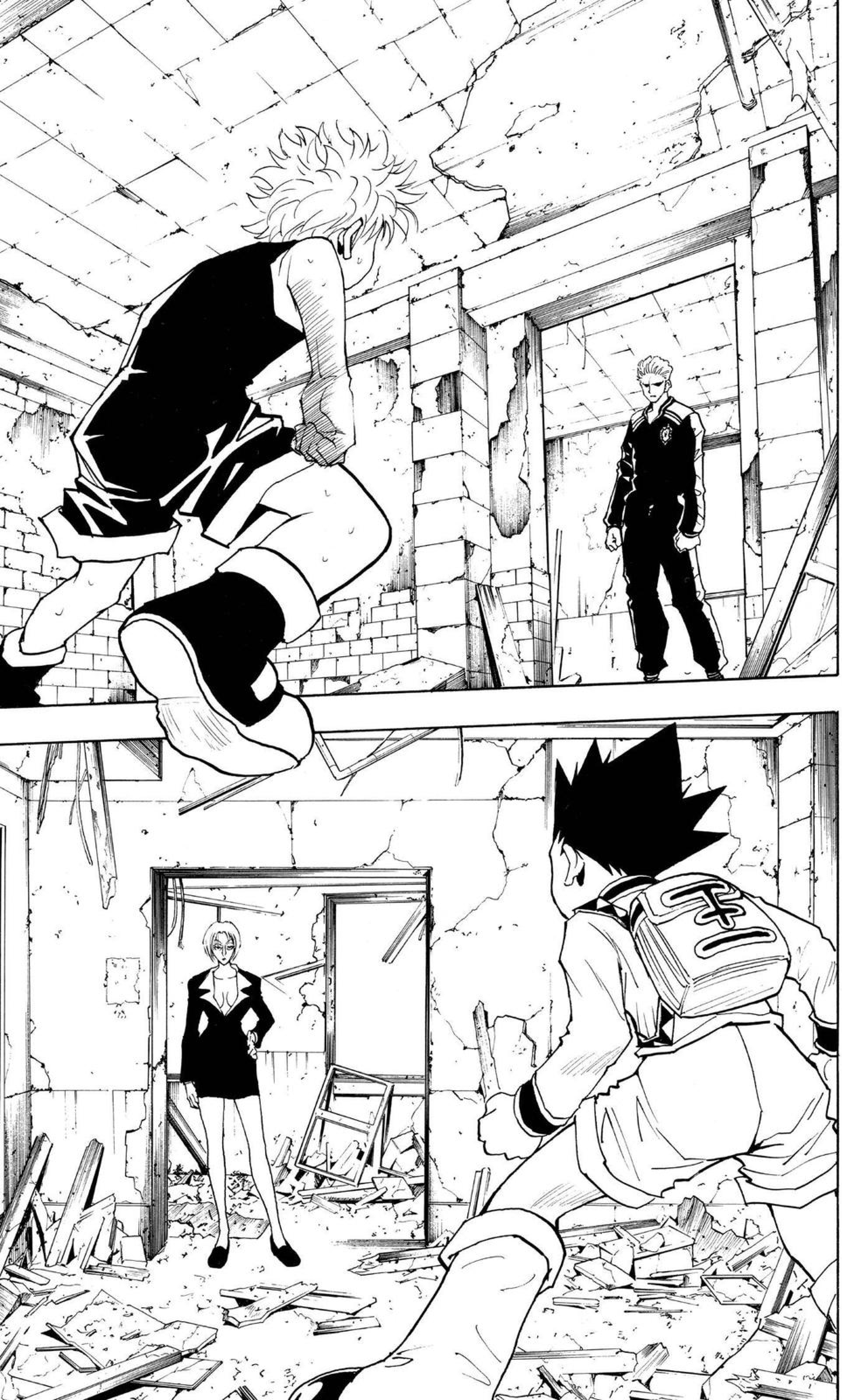

THEY'RE NOT TAKING THE BAIT.
MAYBE IT'S NOT THE CHAIN DUDE.
WHY'S THAT?
THERE'S MORE THAN ONE OF THEM.
CHAIN DUDE PROBABLY WORKS ALONE.
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK SO?
HE WORKS FOR NOSTRADE.
BUT HE SEEMS TO HAVE FOUGHT UVO ALONE.
FOR THEIR PART, THE MAFIA HASN'T MADE A MOVE.
THEY'D DEFINITELY USE UVO TO THREATEN US, WHETHER HE WAS DEAD OR ALIVE. IF HE WERE DEAD...
...THEY'D HAVE PUT A PICTURE OF HIS BEATEN-UP, SEVERED HEAD ON THE WEB BY NOW.
THAT MEANS THE CHAIN DUDE KILLED UVO ON HIS OWN AND DIDN'T REPORT IT TO THE MAFIA.
BUT WHY WOULD A MAFIA THUG WORK BY HIMSELF?

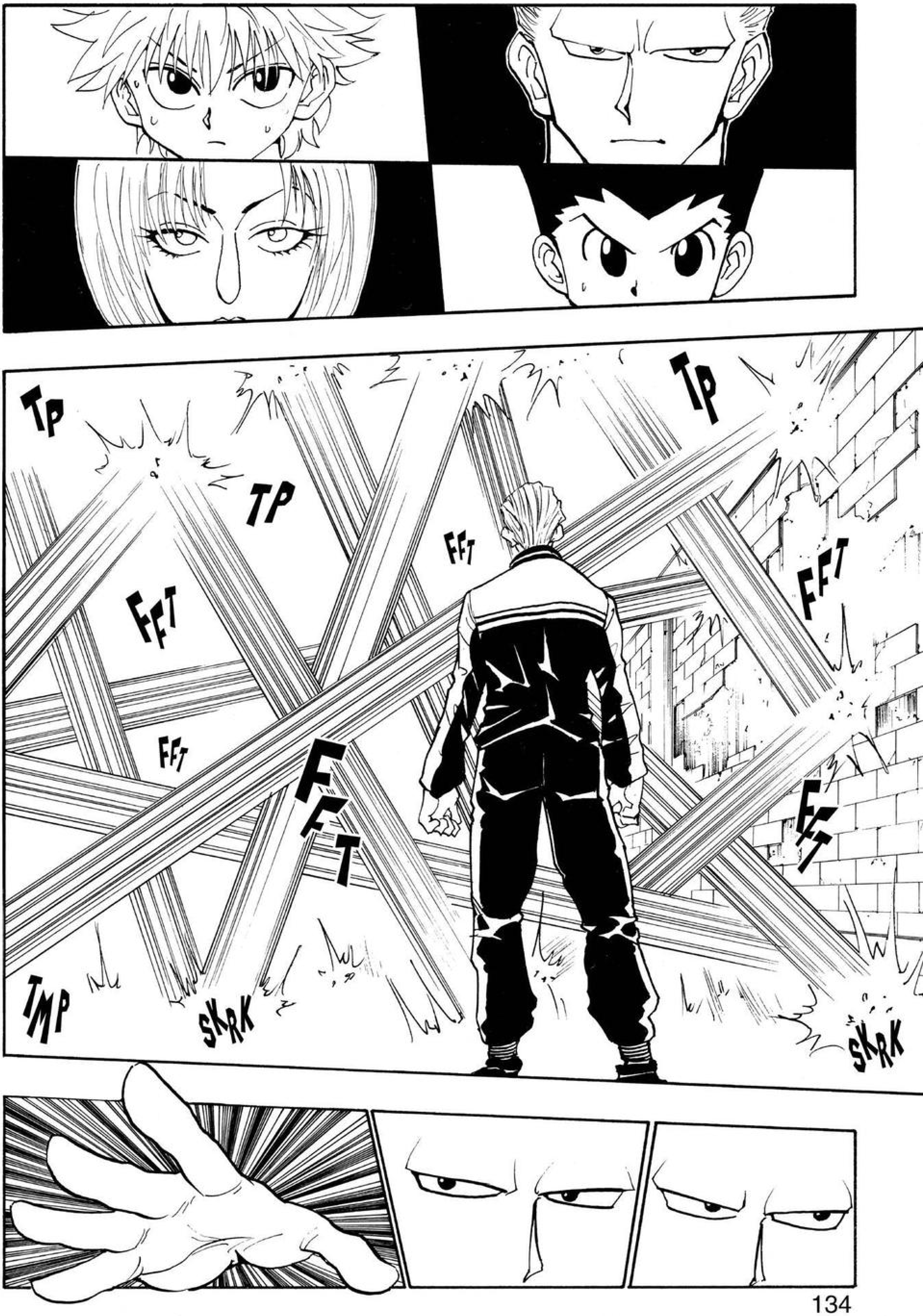

IT'S PROBABLY A PERSONAL GRUDGE.
YOU'RE GUESSING AN AWFUL LOT.
QUIET.
I CAN'T IMAGINE A GUY LIKE THAT WOULD TEAM UP WITH ANYONE.
SO CHAIN DUDE WORKS ALONE...
...AND THESE GUYS ARE UNRELATED.
YOUR LOGIC'S FULL OF HOLES.
THEN WHAT DO *YOU* THINK?!
WELL...
...I THINK THEY'RE STILL SOMEHOW RELATED TO THE CHAIN DUDE.
IS THAT A HUNCH?
YEAH.
GEEZ...
THAT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH LOGIC.
...
WHAT DO YOU THINK, KILLUA?
THEY'RE EITHER GOING TO MEET UP WITH OTHERS... OR THEY'RE TRYING TO DRAW US OUT.

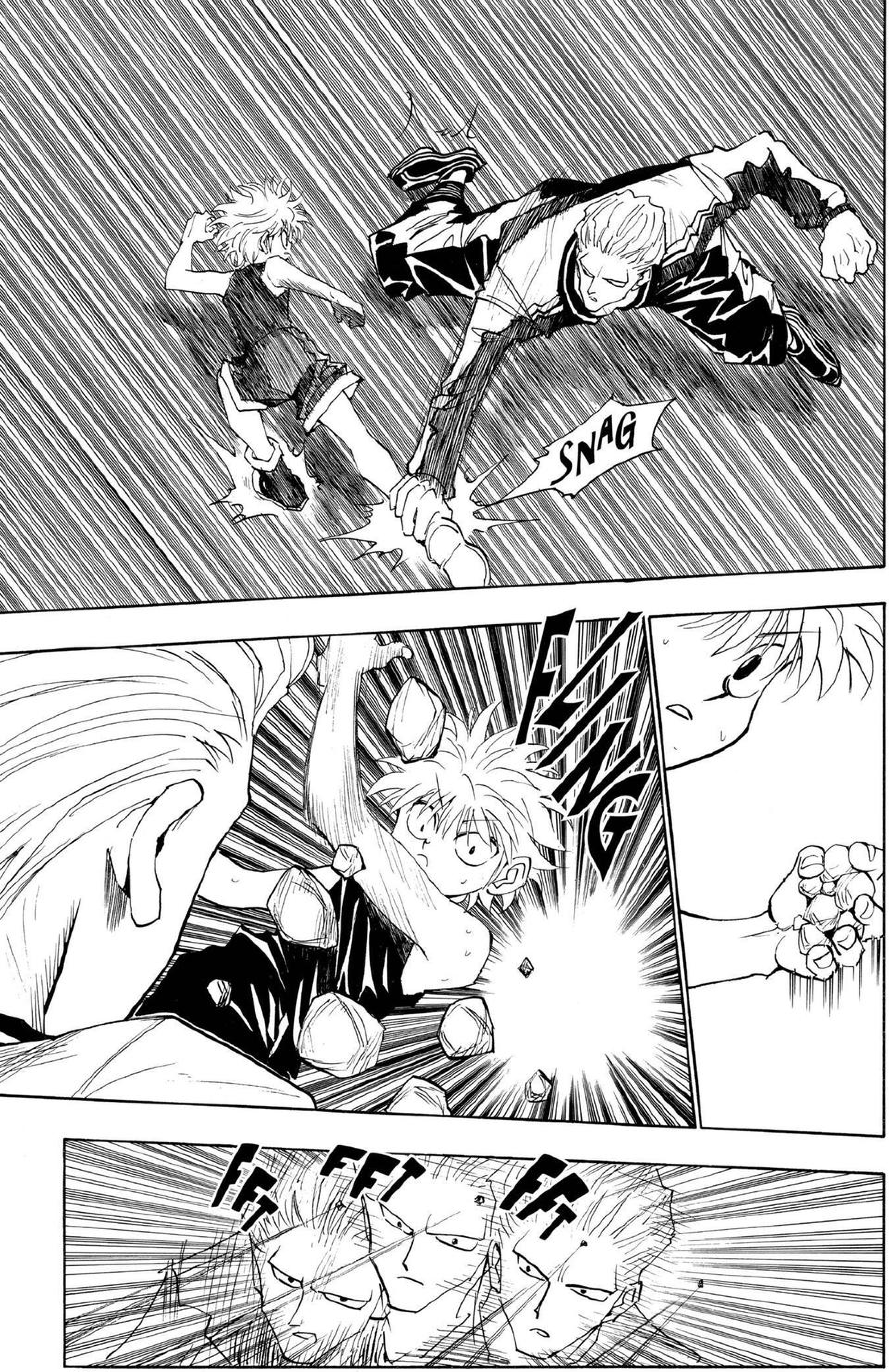

DRAW US OUT? DO THEY KNOW WE'RE ONTO THEM?
THERE'S A FIFTY-FIFTY CHANCE. IF THEY HAVE...
...THEY'RE TELLING US TO SHOW OURSELVES, BECAUSE THEY DON'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE.
NOW WHAT?
THIS MIGHT BE THEIR MEETING PLACE.
LET'S WAIT A WHILE LONGER AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS.
!!
GON!
I'M GONNA HANG UP NOW, SO LISTEN CAREFULLY!
IF THINGS START TO LOOK SUSPICIOUS, WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE.
IN FACT, THE NEXT TIME I RING, IT MEANS WE BAIL. GOT IT?!
HELLO?
HEY, IT'S PHINKS.
WHAT'S UP?

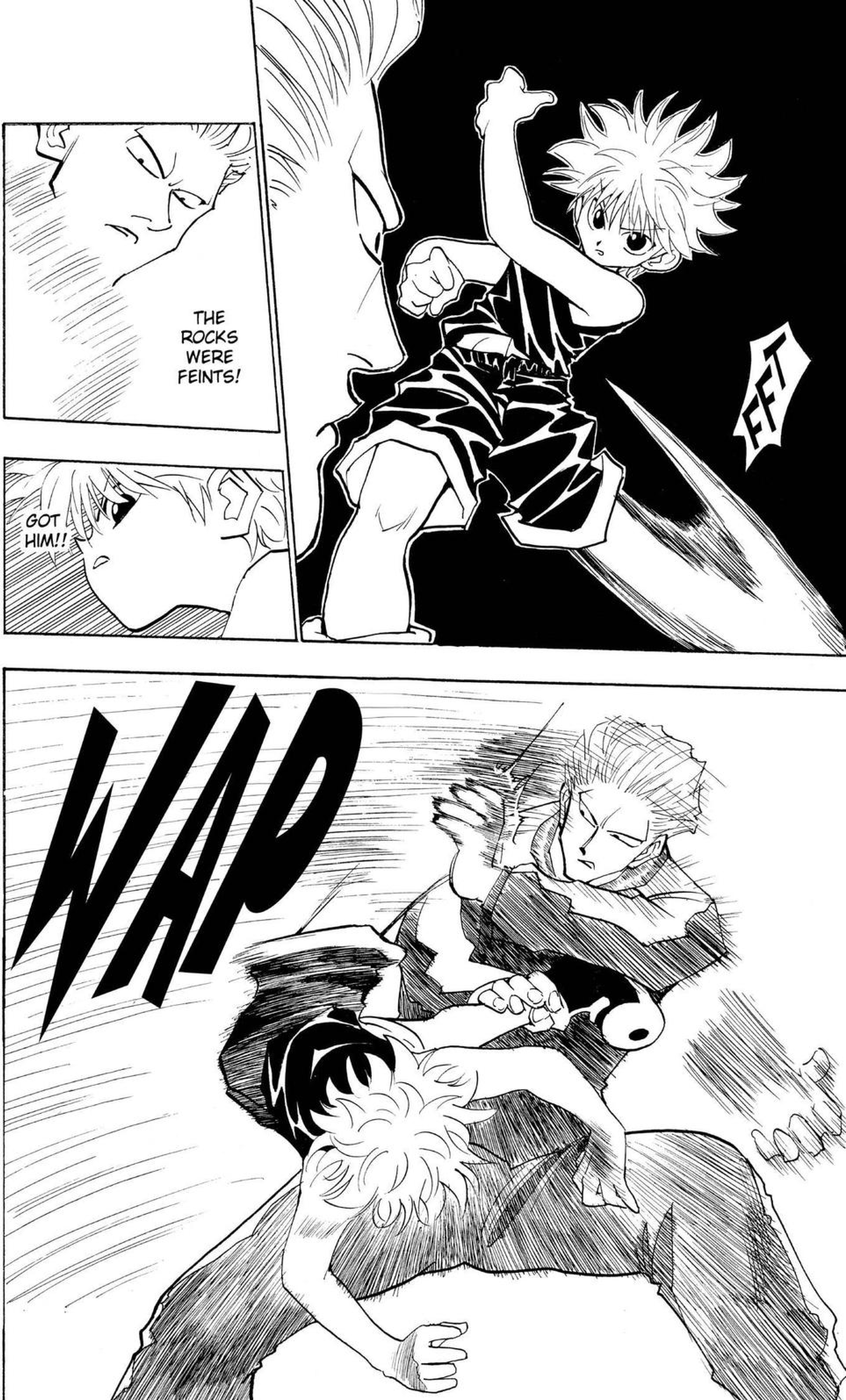

HOW'S IT GOING?
WE'RE BEING FOLLOWED.
THEY WON'T SHOW THEMSELVES, SO THIS COULD TAKE A WHILE.
WANT A HINT?
I DON'T GET IT.
BRR!!

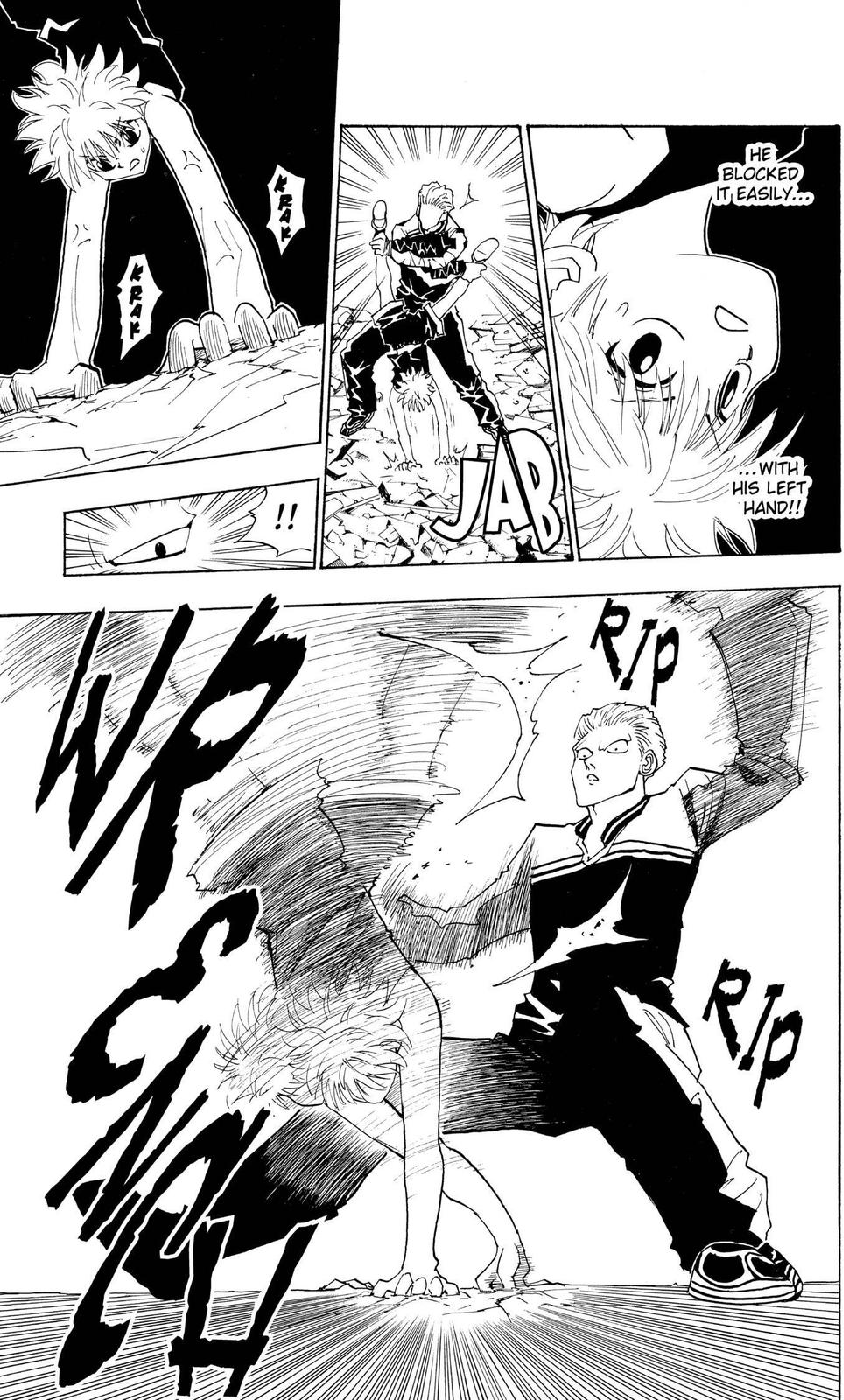

SHP!!
SHP!
!!

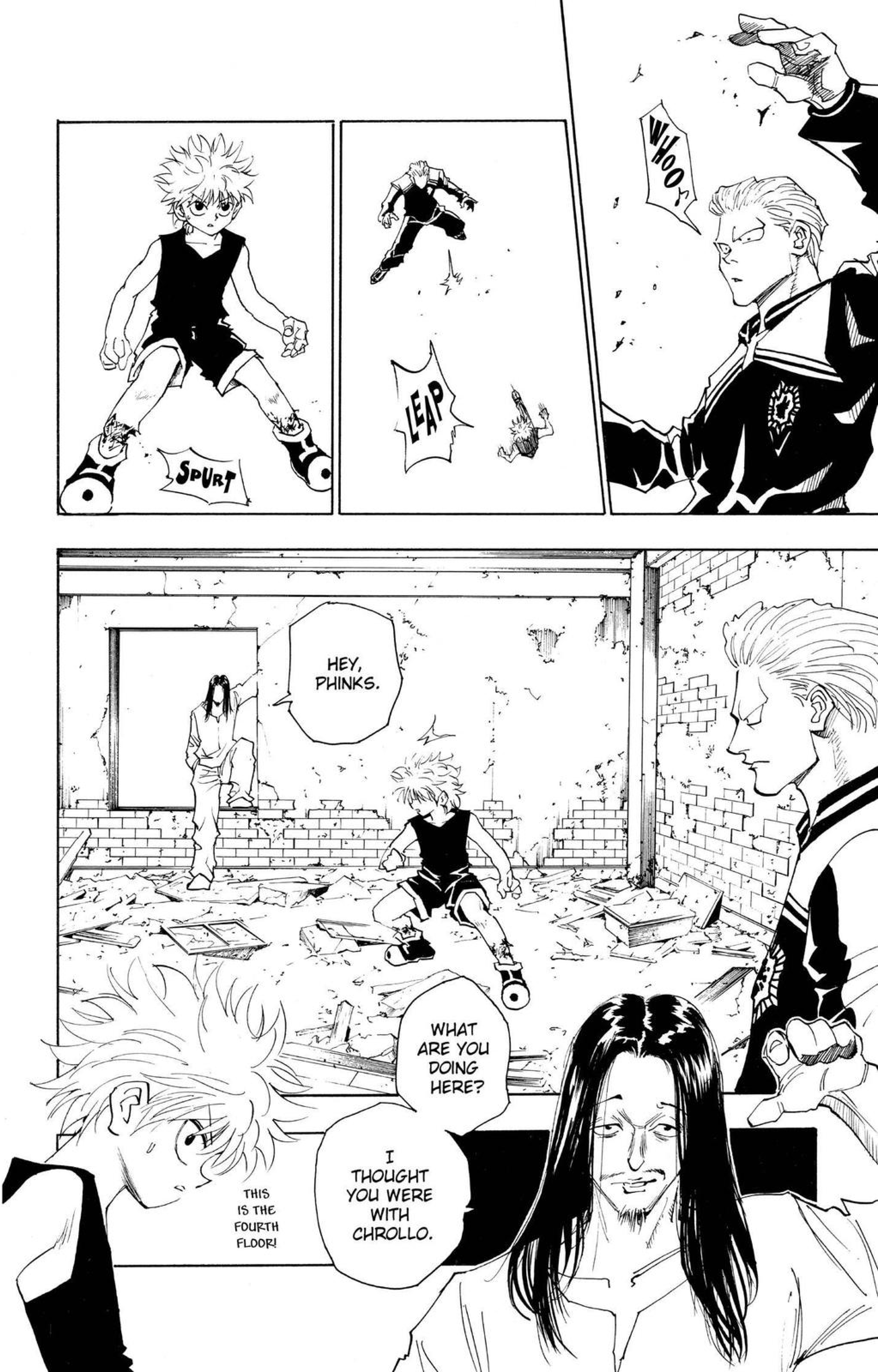


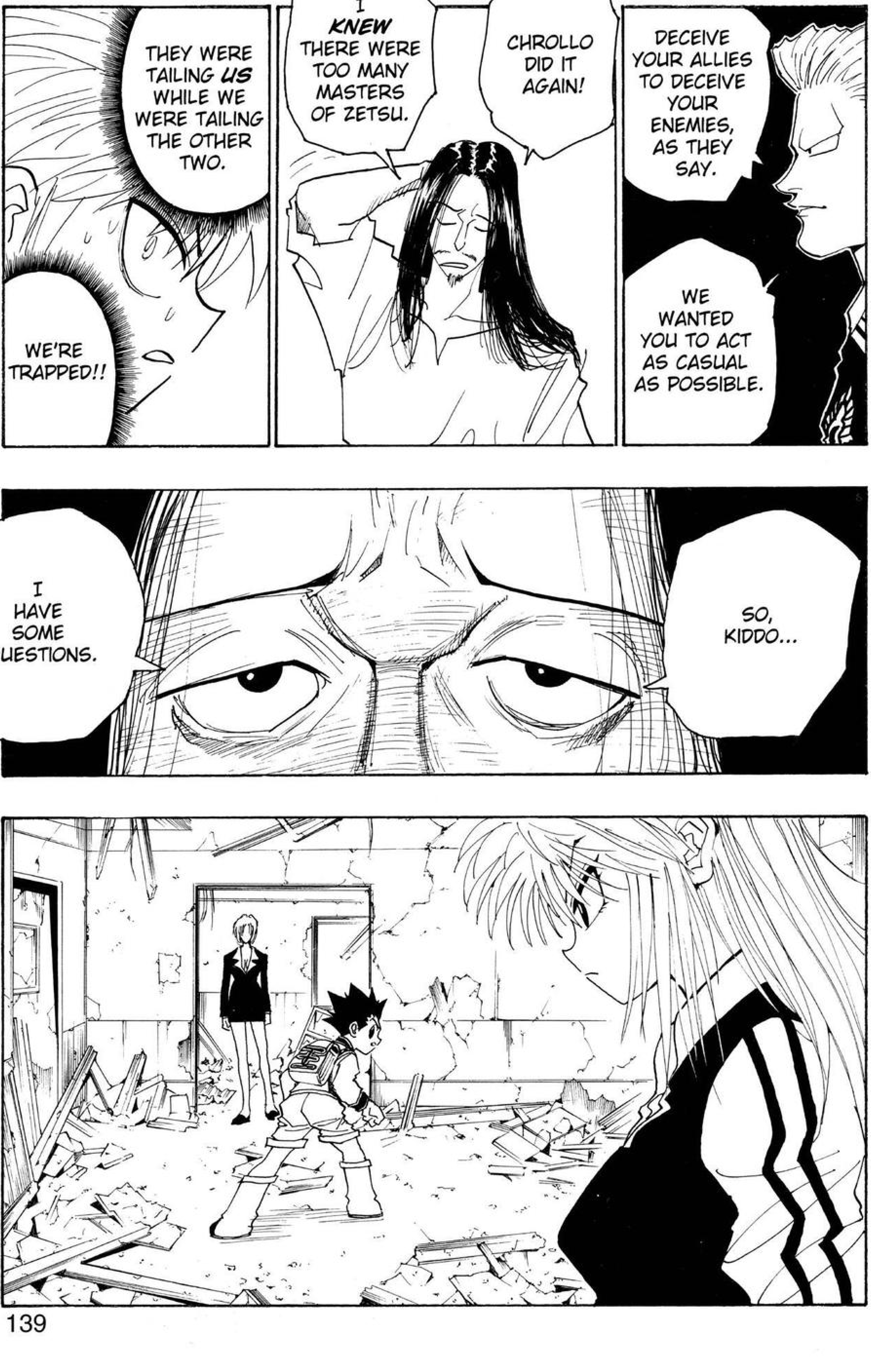

TP
FFT
FFT
SKRK
FFT
FFT
TP
TP
FFT
FFT
TMP
SKRK

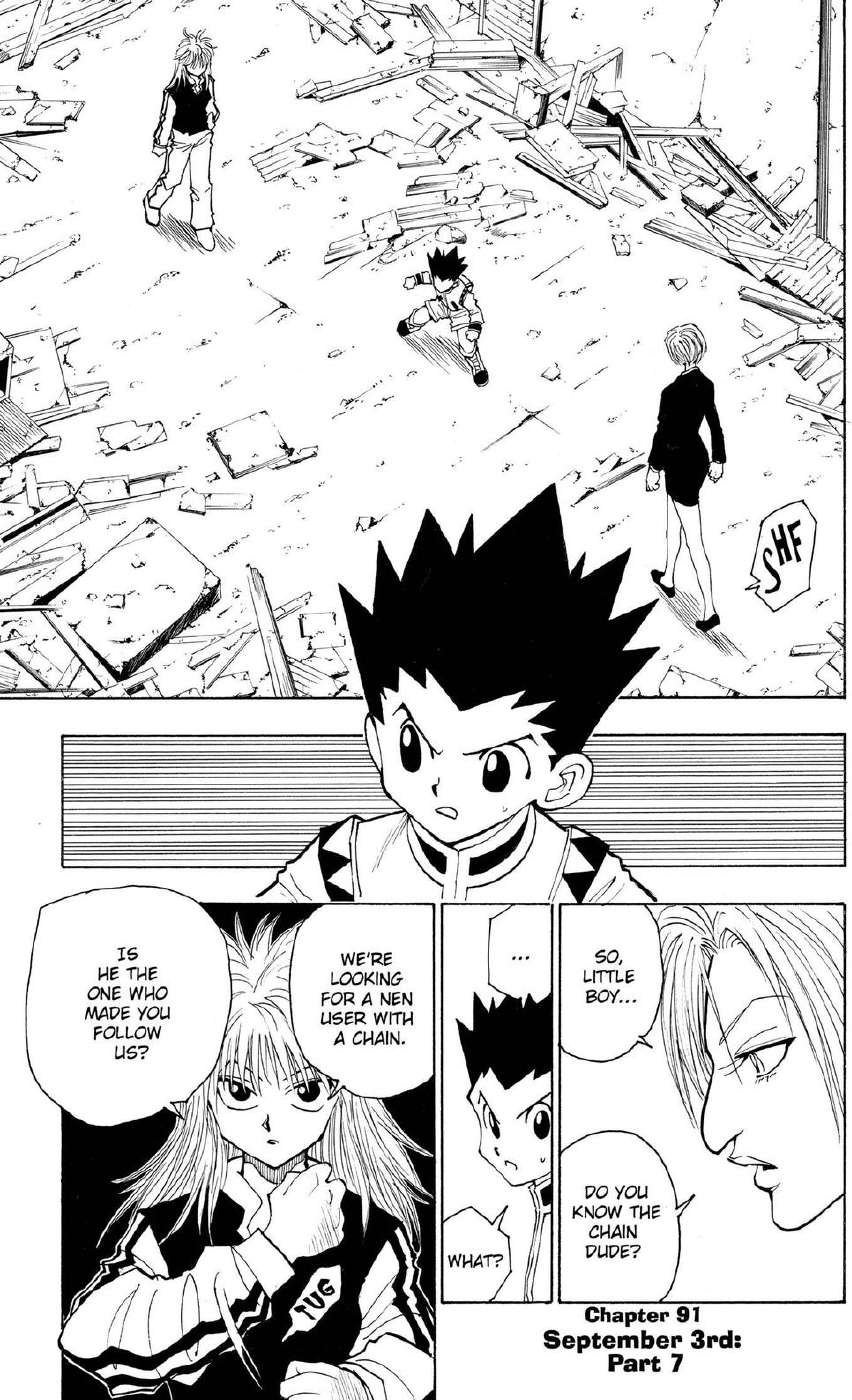

SNAG
FLING
FFT
FFT
FFT


FFT
THE ROCKS WERE FEINTS!
GOT HIM!!
WAP


HE BLOCKED IT EASILY...
...WITH HIS LEFT HAND!!
JAB
KRAK
KRAK
!!
RIP
RIP

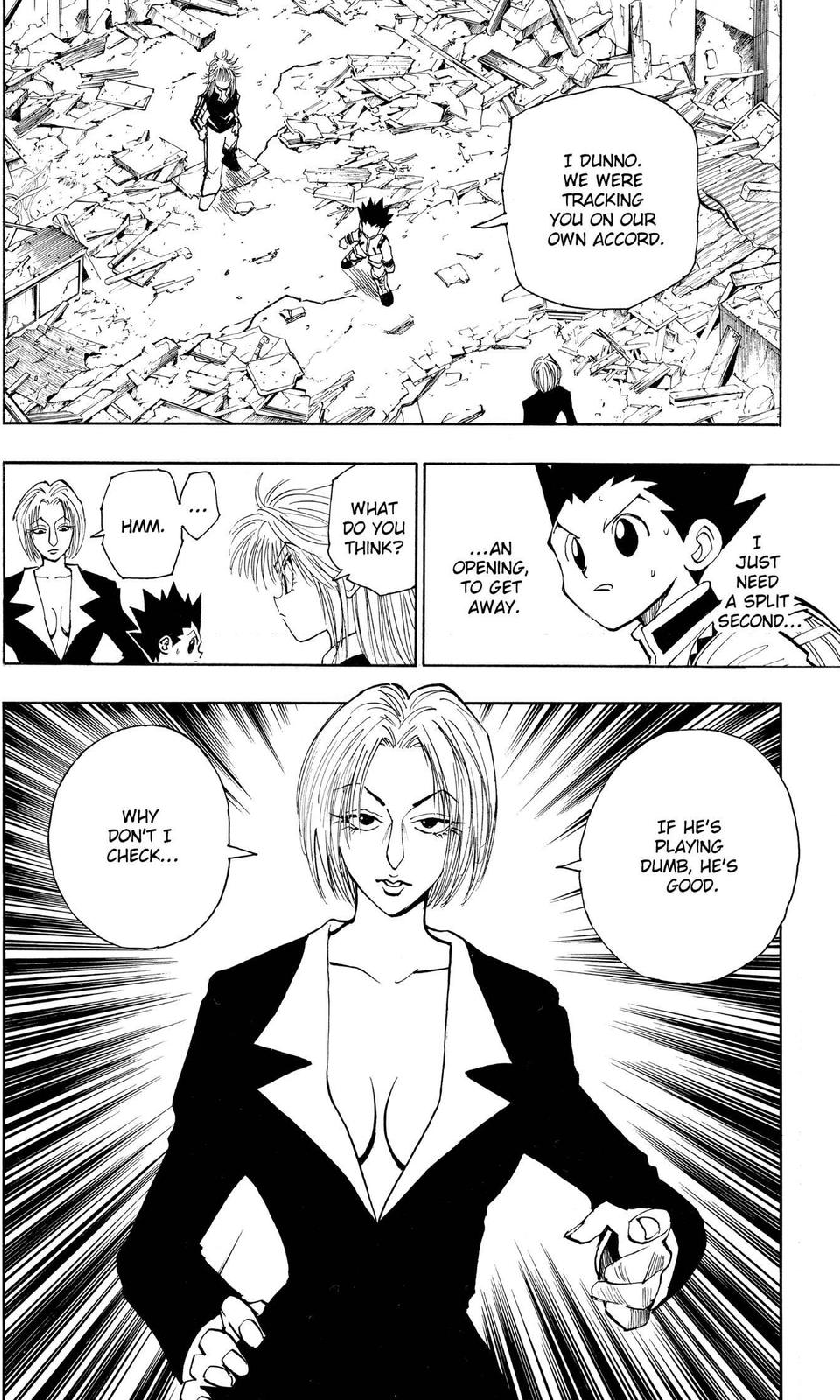

WHOO♪
LEAP
SPURT
HEY, PHINKS.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE WITH CHROLLO.
THIS IS THE FOURTH FLOOR!


DECEIVE YOUR ALLIES TO DECEIVE YOUR ENEMIES, AS THEY SAY.
WE WANTED YOU TO ACT AS CASUAL AS POSSIBLE.
CHROLLO DID IT AGAIN!
I *KNEW* THERE WERE TOO MANY MASTERS OF ZETSU.
THEY WERE TAILING *US* WHILE WE WERE TAILING THE OTHER TWO.
WE'RE TRAPPED!!
SO, KIDDO...
I HAVE SOME QUESTIONS.


SHF
SO, LITTLE BOY…
DO YOU KNOW THE CHAIN DUDE?
…
WHAT?
WE'RE LOOKING FOR A NEN USER WITH A CHAIN.
IS HE THE ONE WHO MADE YOU FOLLOW US?
TUG

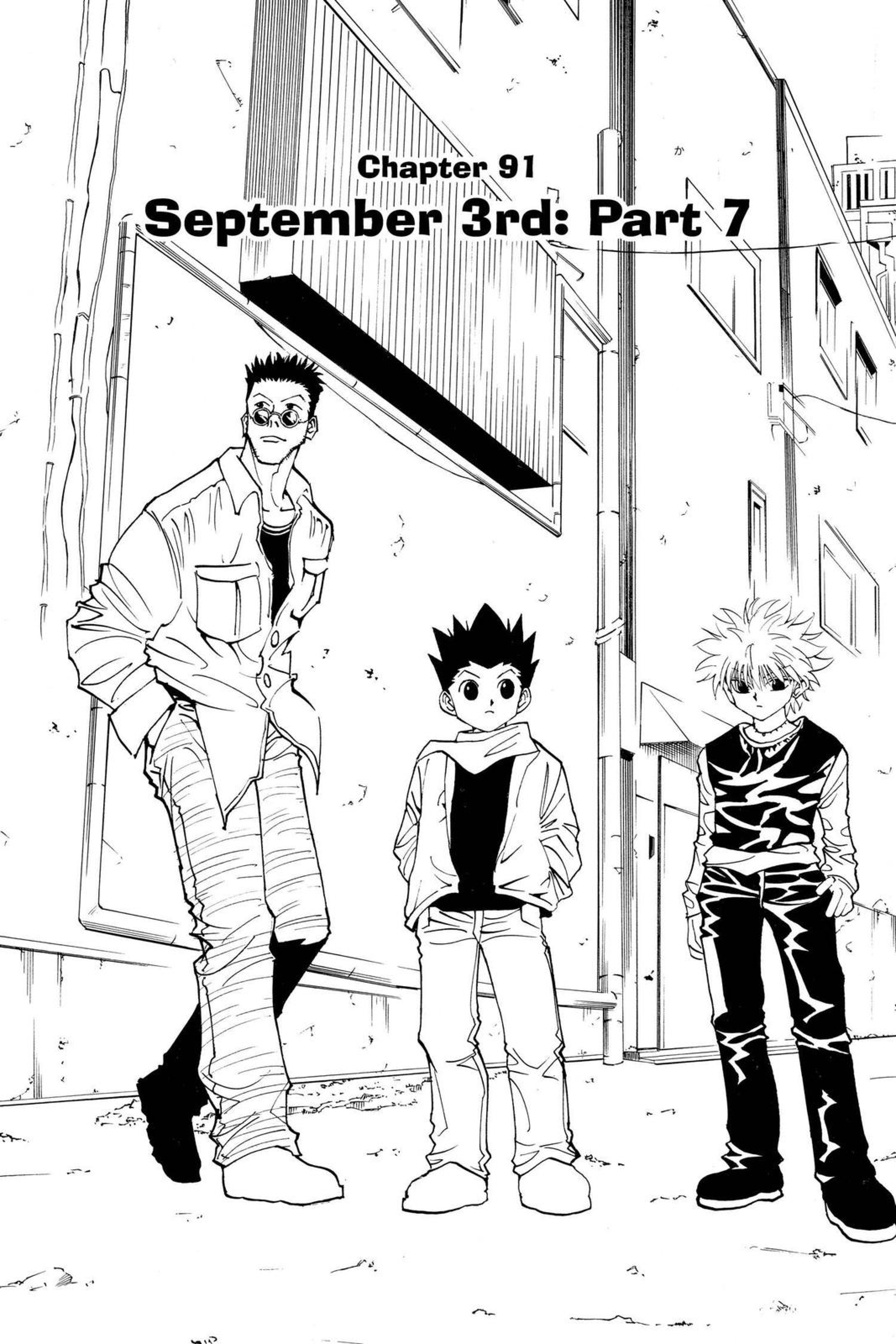
Chapter 91

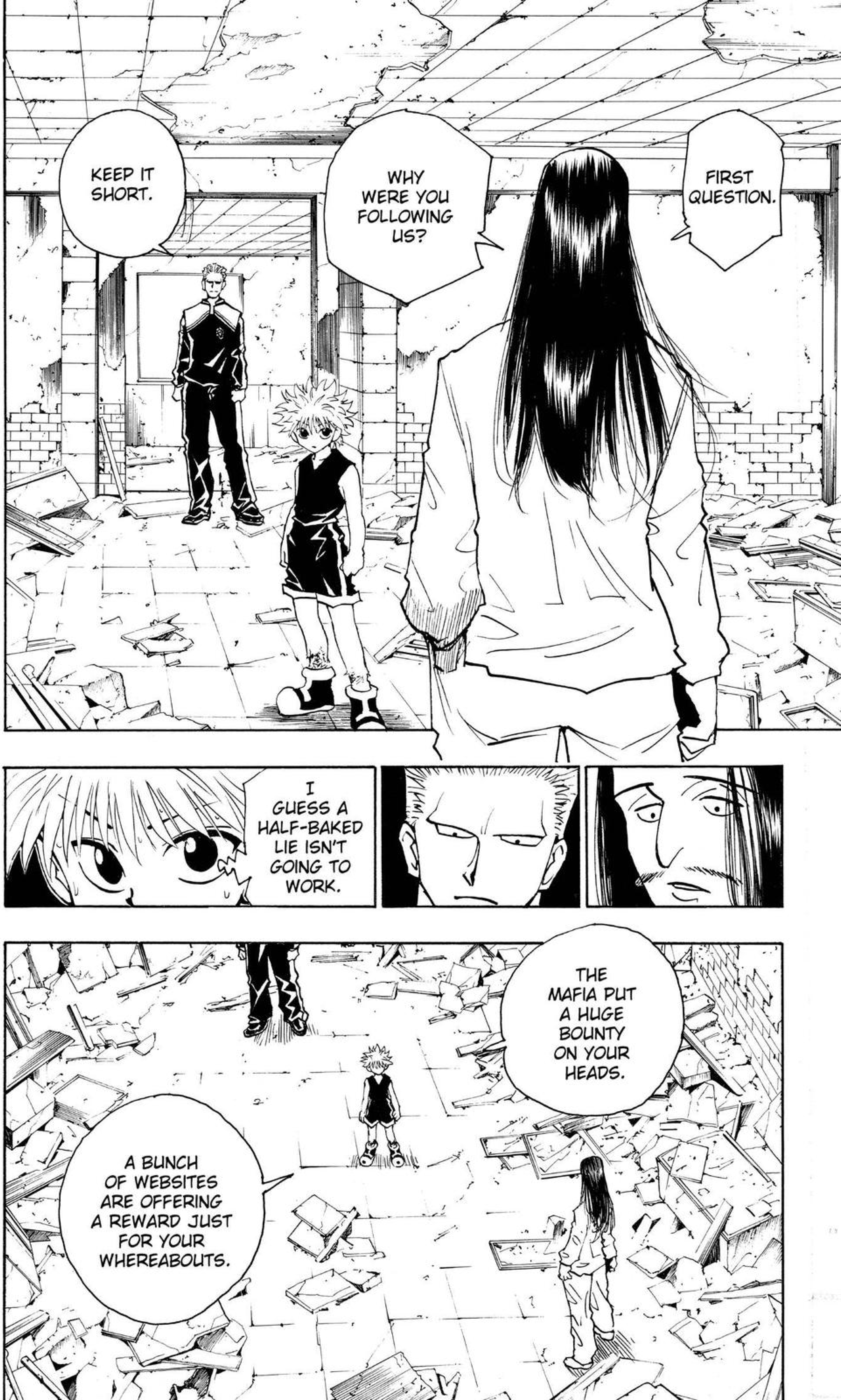
September 3rd: Part 7


I DUNNO. WE WERE TRACKING YOU ON OUR OWN ACCORD.
I JUST NEED A SPLIT SECOND...
...AN OPENING, TO GET AWAY.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
...
HMM.
IF HE'S PLAYING DUMB, HE'S GOOD.
WHY DON'T I CHECK...

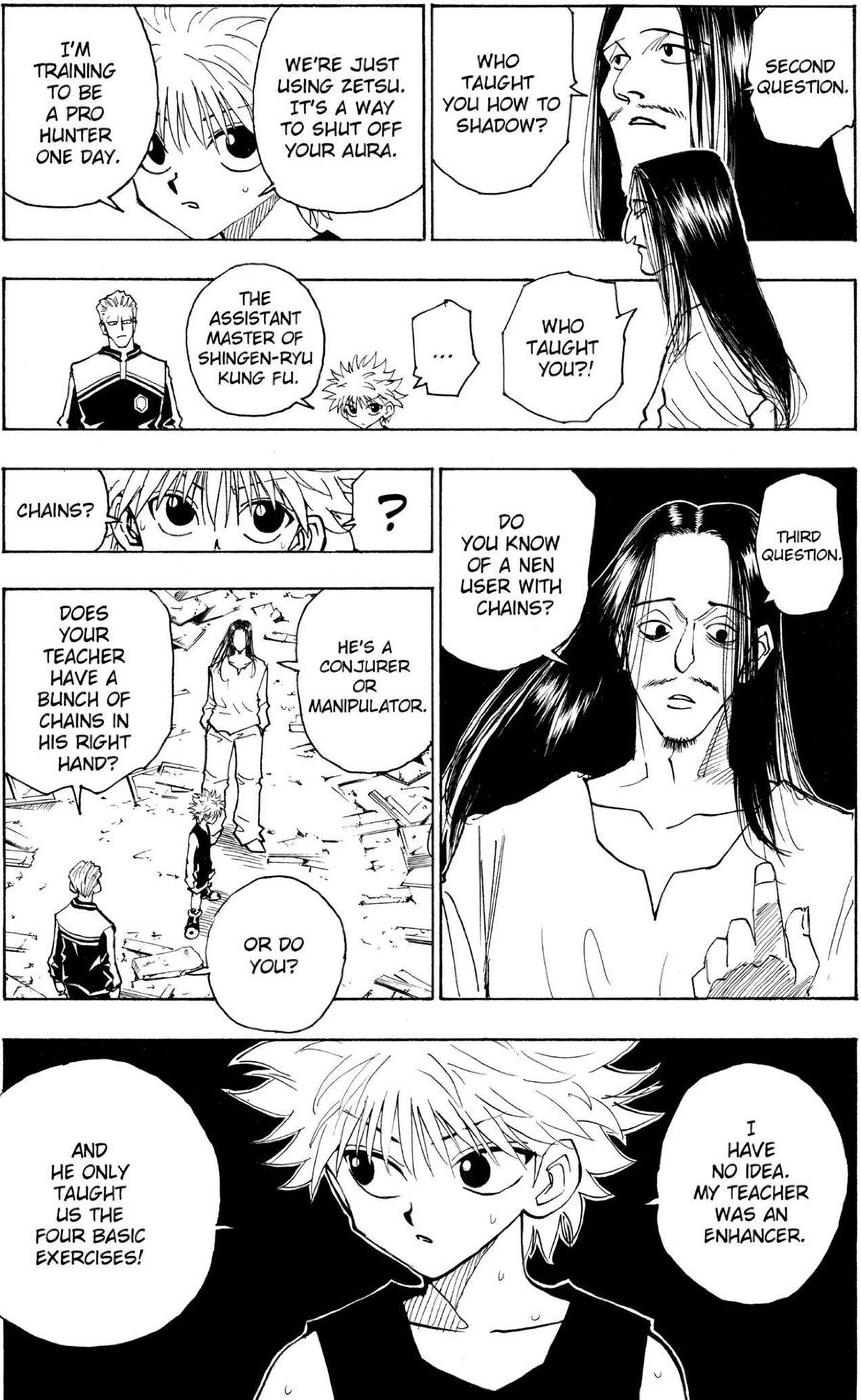
Chapter 91

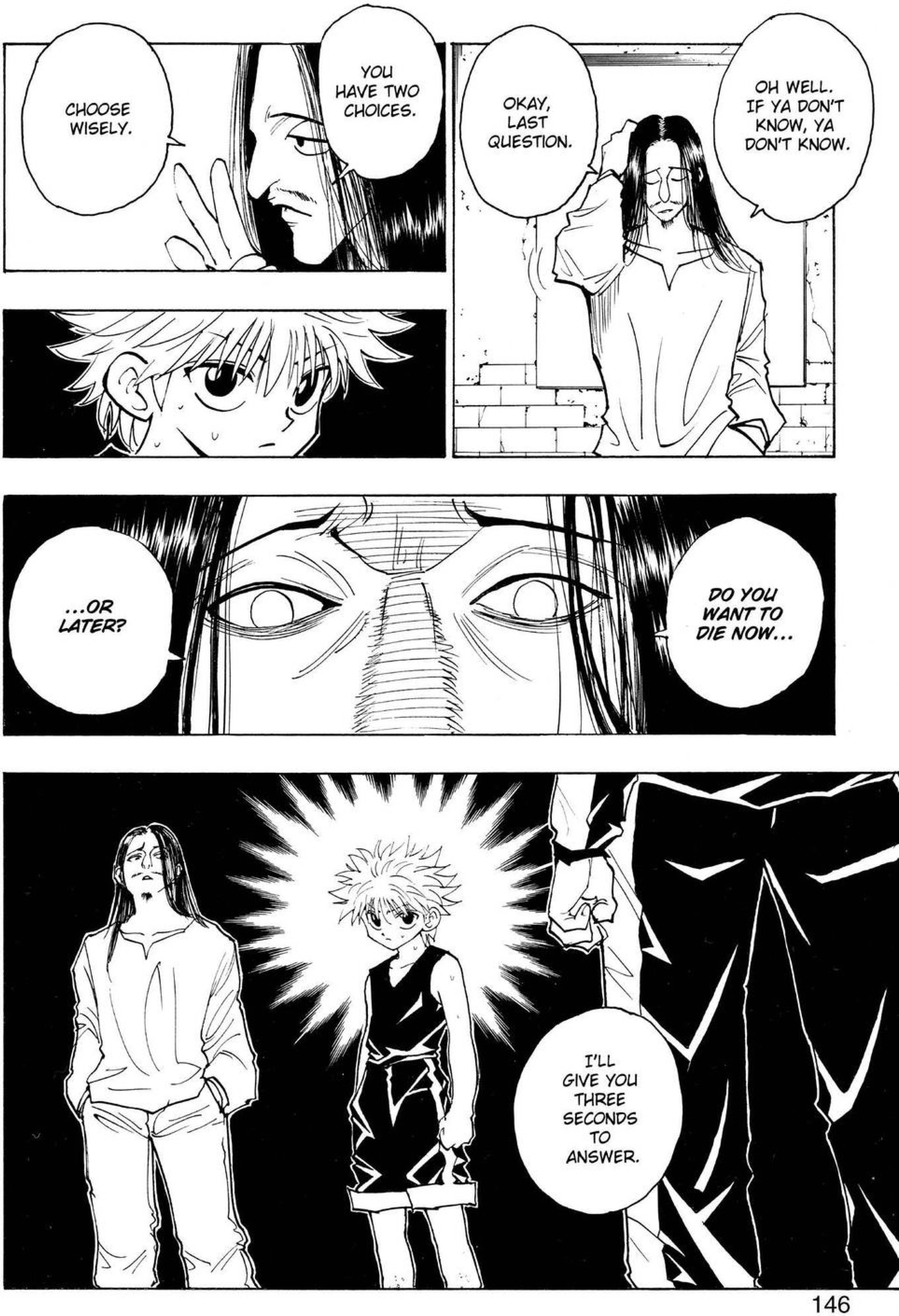
September 3rd: Part 7



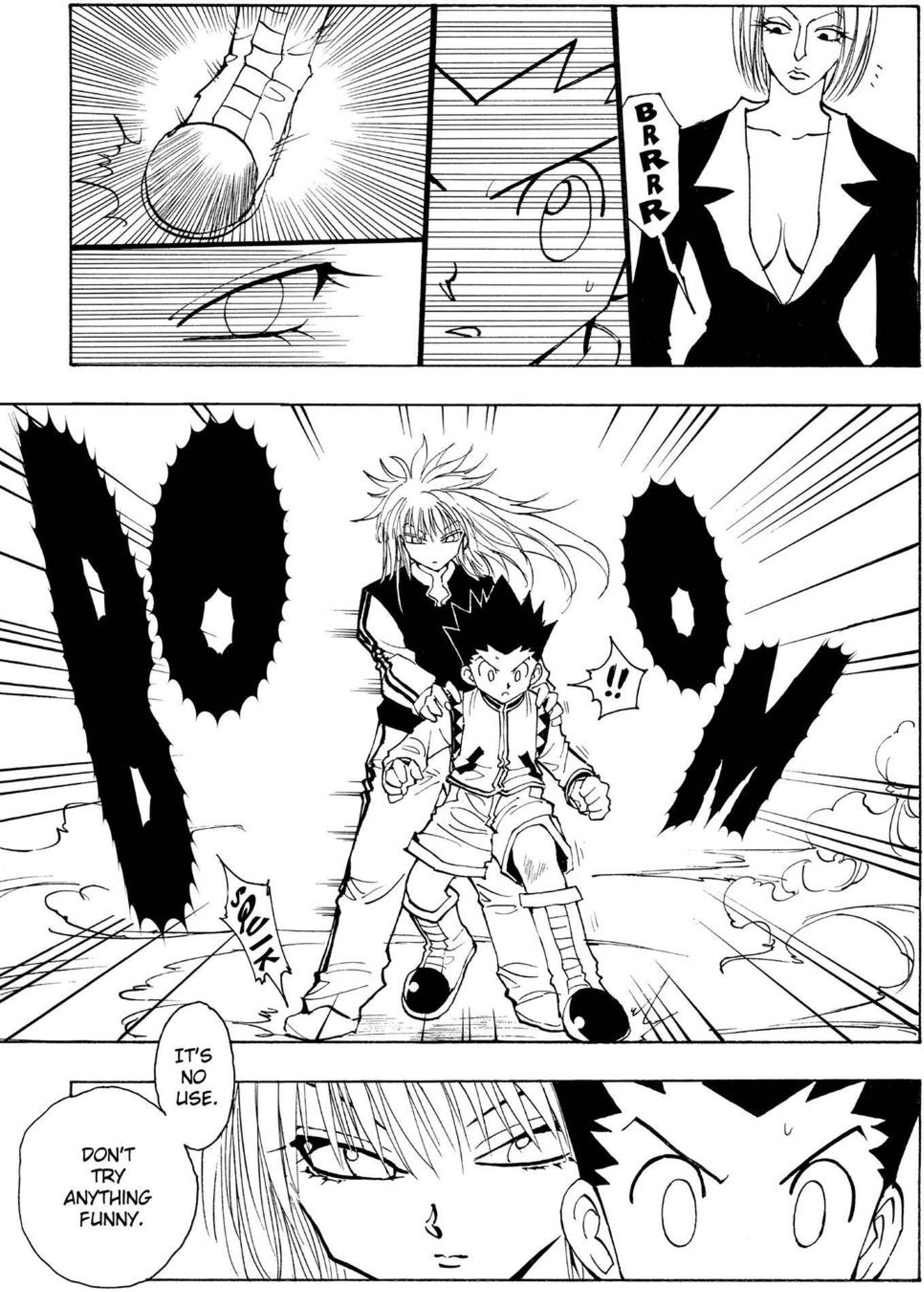

FIRST QUESTION.
WHY WERE YOU FOLLOWING US?
KEEP IT SHORT.
I GUESS A HALF-BAKED LIE ISN'T GOING TO WORK.
THE MAFIA PUT A HUGE BOUNTY ON YOUR HEADS.
A BUNCH OF WEBSITES ARE OFFERING A REWARD JUST FOR YOUR WHEREABOUTS.

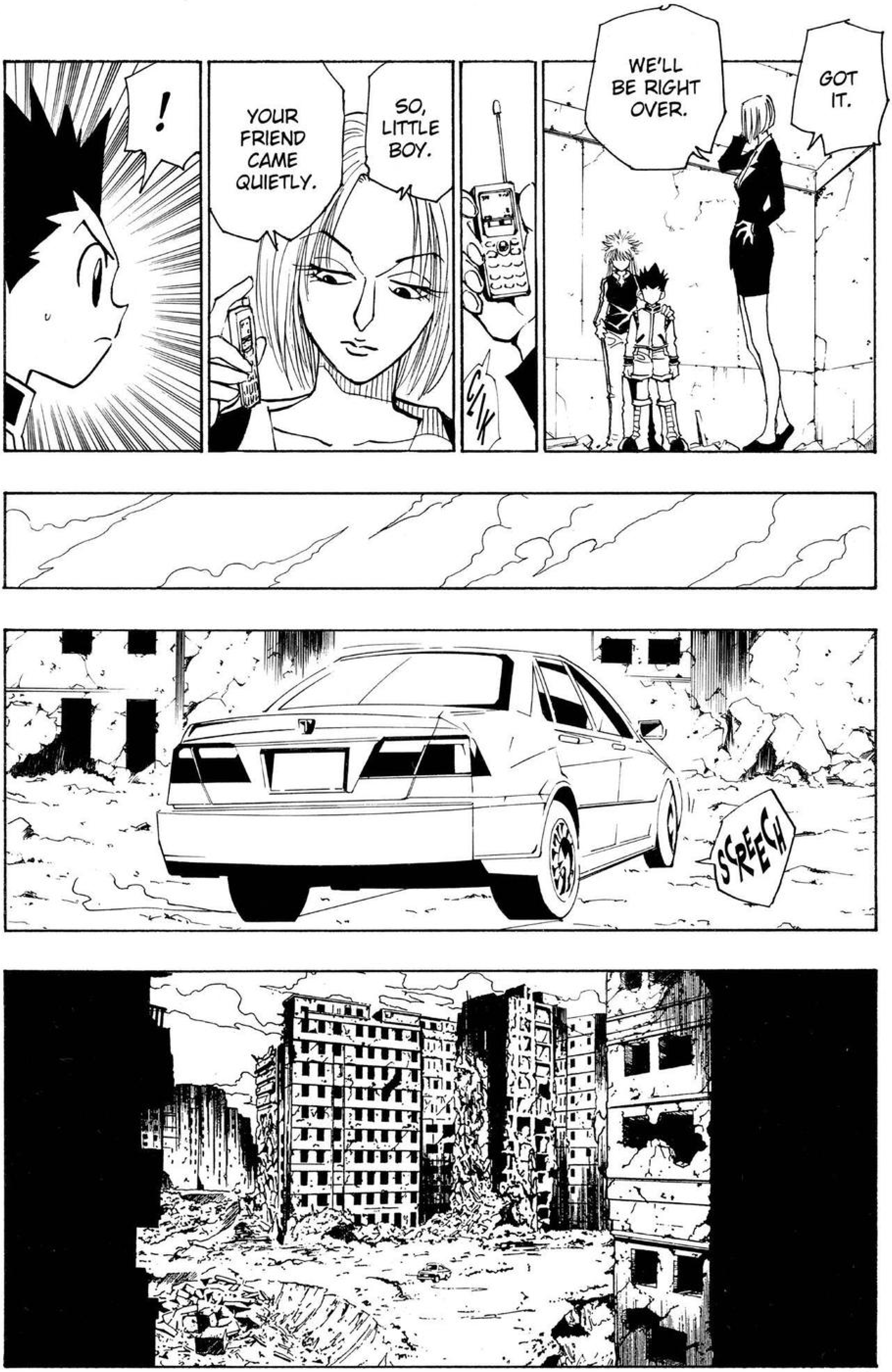
READ THIS WAY

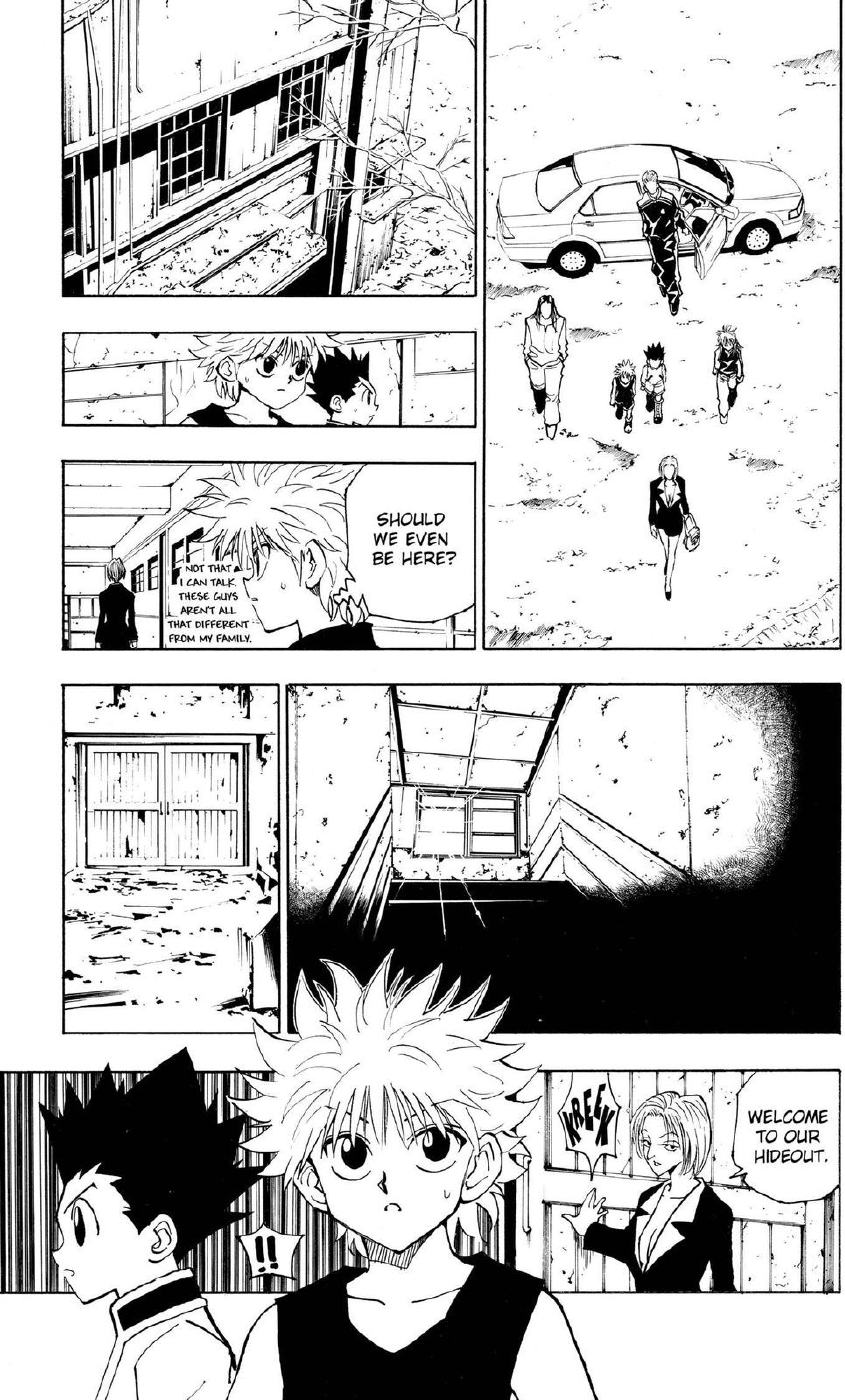

SECOND QUESTION.
WHO TAUGHT YOU HOW TO SHADOW?
WE'RE JUST USING ZETSU. IT'S A WAY TO SHUT OFF YOUR AURA.
I'M TRAINING TO BE A PRO HUNTER ONE DAY.
WHO TAUGHT YOU?!
...
THE ASSISTANT MASTER OF SHINGEN-RYU KUNG FU.
THIRD QUESTION.
DO YOU KNOW OF A NEN USER WITH CHAINS?
?
CHAINS?
HE'S A CONJURER OR MANIPULATOR.
DOES YOUR TEACHER HAVE A BUNCH OF CHAINS IN HIS RIGHT HAND?
OR DO YOU?
I HAVE NO IDEA. MY TEACHER WAS AN ENHANCER.
AND HE ONLY TAUGHT US THE FOUR BASIC EXERCISES!

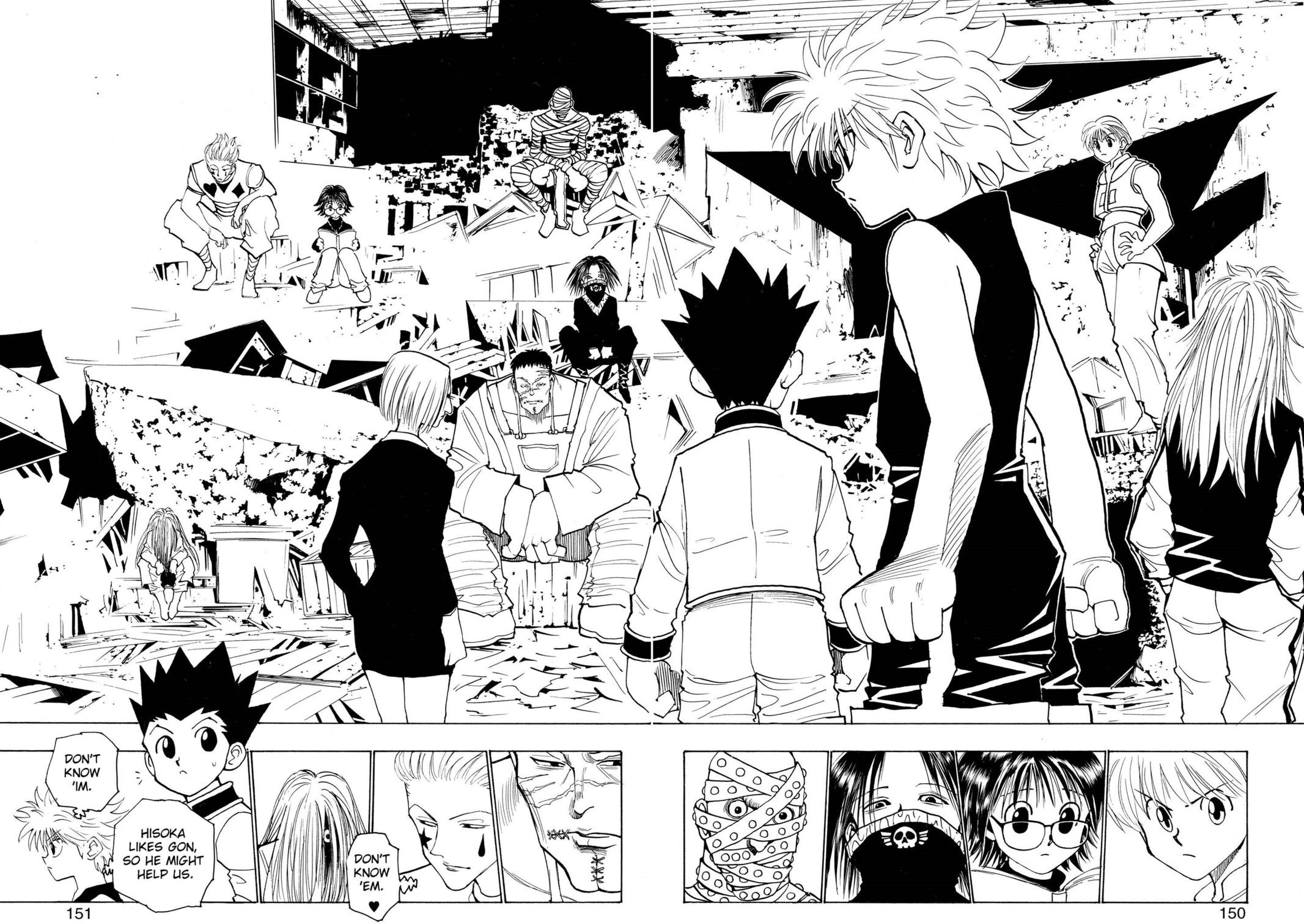

OH WELL. IF YA DON'T KNOW, YA DON'T KNOW.
OKAY, LAST QUESTION.
YOU HAVE TWO CHOICES.
CHOOSE WISELY.
DO YOU WANT TO DIE NOW...
...OR LATER?
I'LL GIVE YOU THREE SECONDS TO ANSWER.

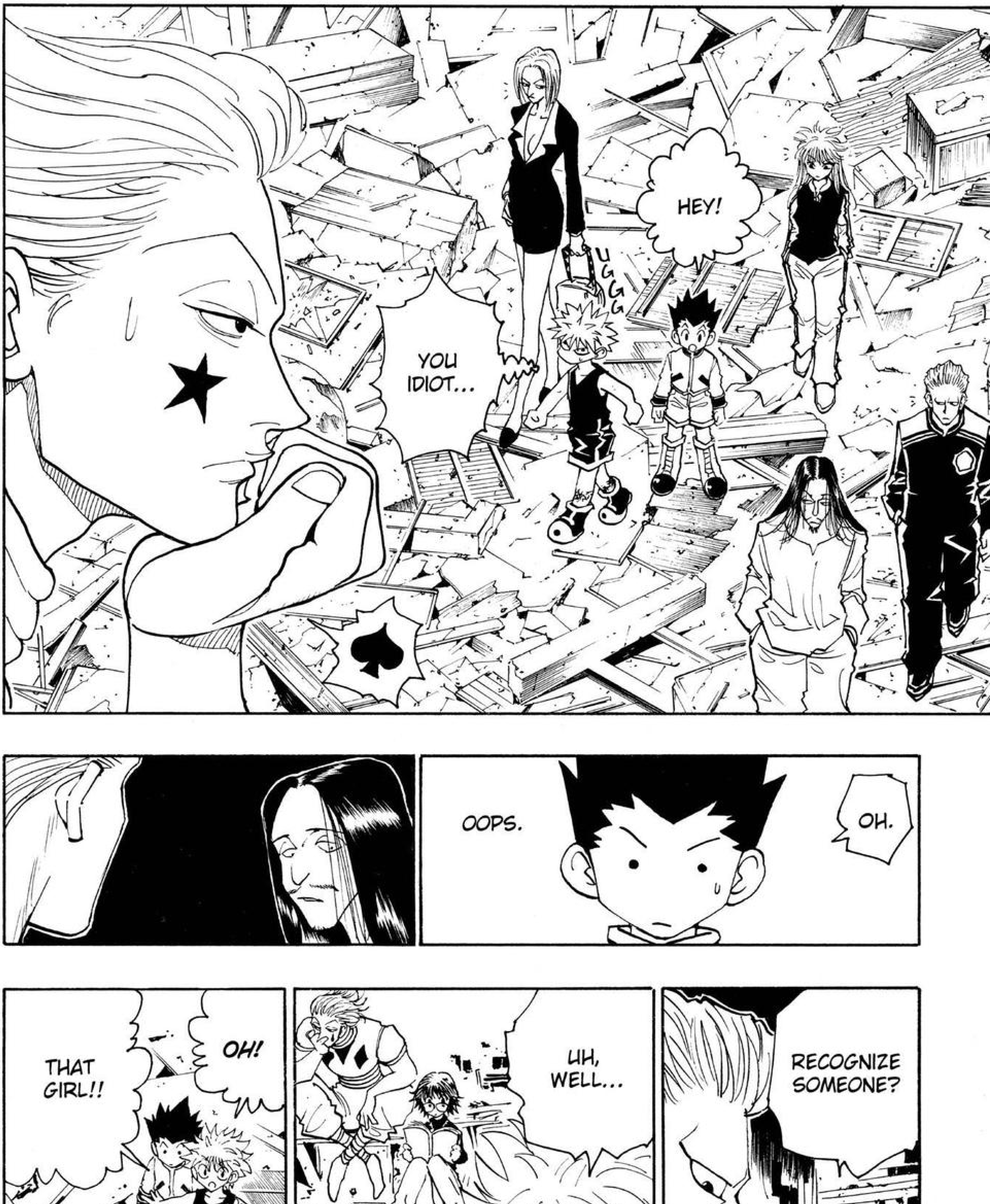
READ THIS WAY

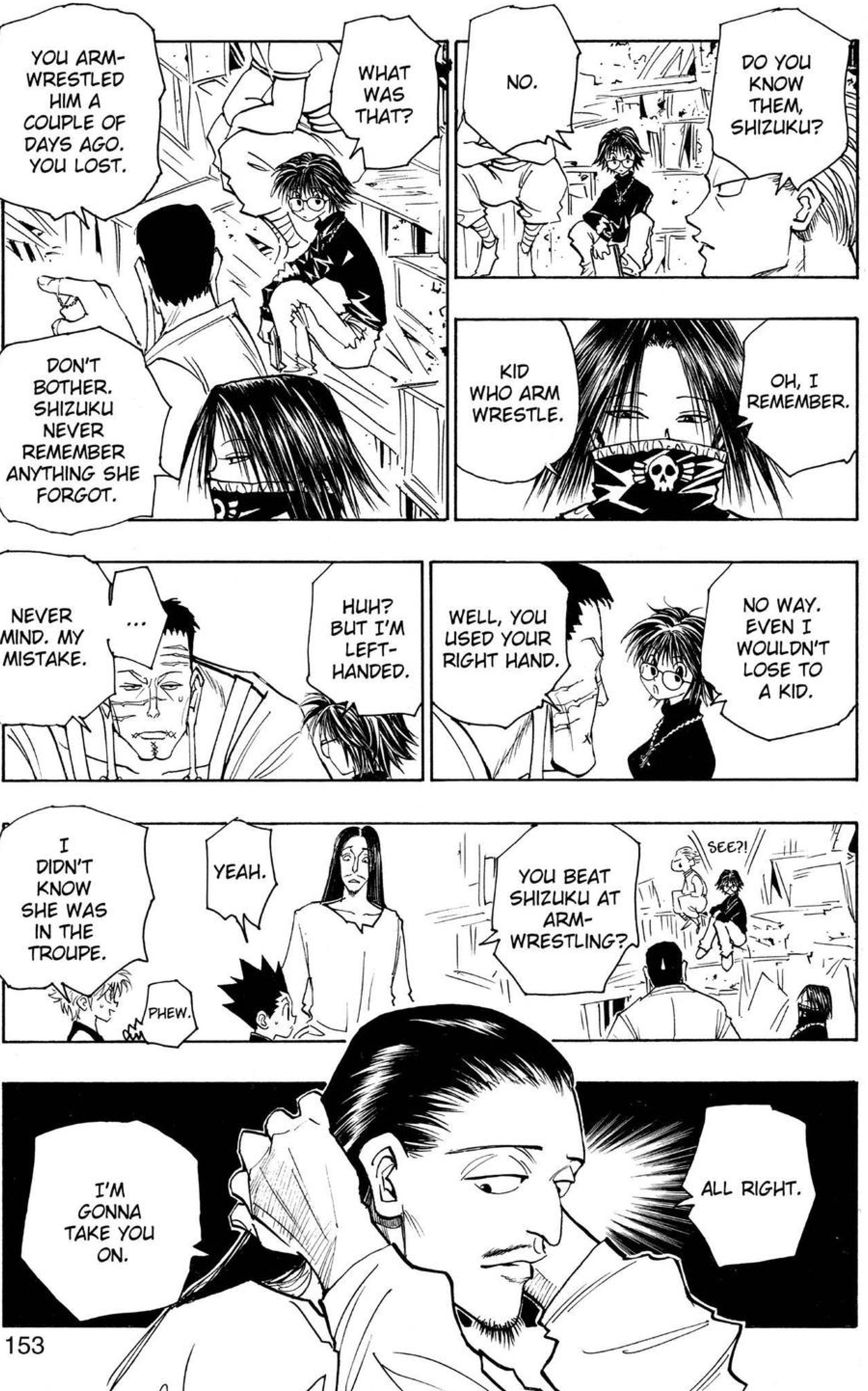

BRRRR
POOM
!!
SQUIK
IT'S NO USE.
DON'T TRY ANYTHING FUNNY.

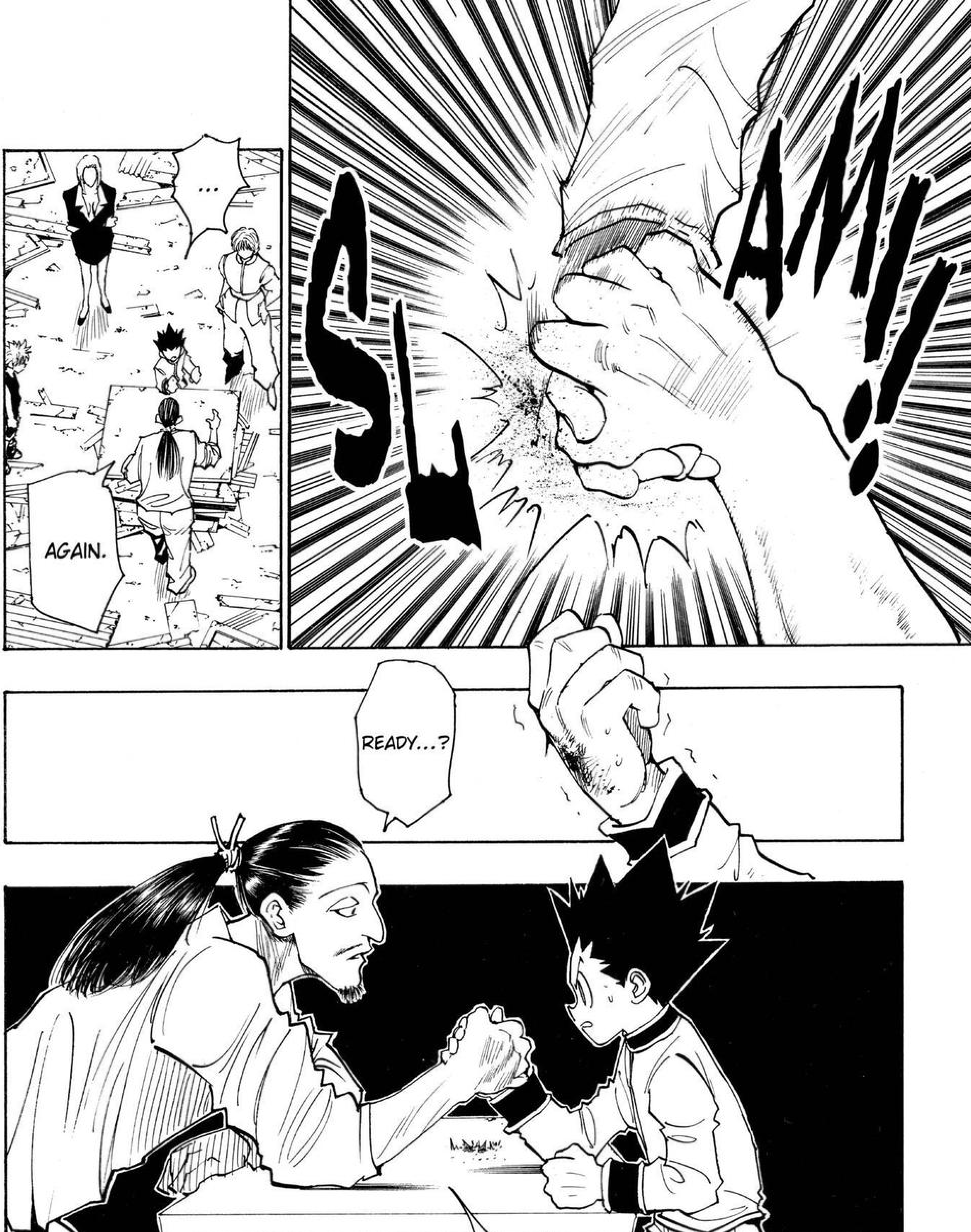

GOT IT.
WE'LL BE RIGHT OVER.
CLIK
SO, LITTLE BOY.
YOUR FRIEND CAME QUIETLY.
!
SCREECH

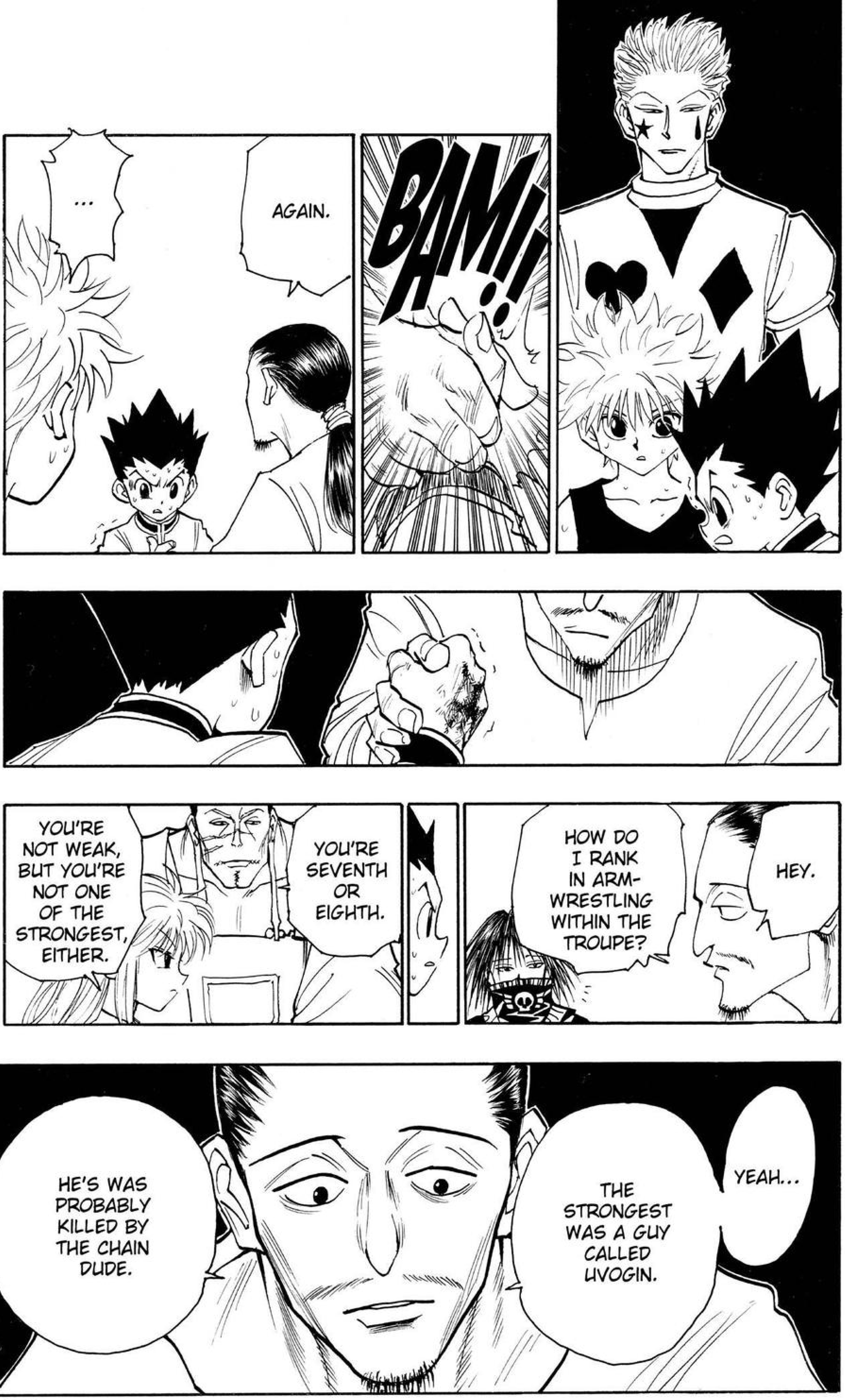

SHOULD WE EVEN BE HERE?
NOT THAT I CAN TALK. THESE GUYS AREN'T ALL THAT DIFFERENT FROM MY FAMILY.
WELCOME TO OUR HIDEOUT.
KREEK
!!

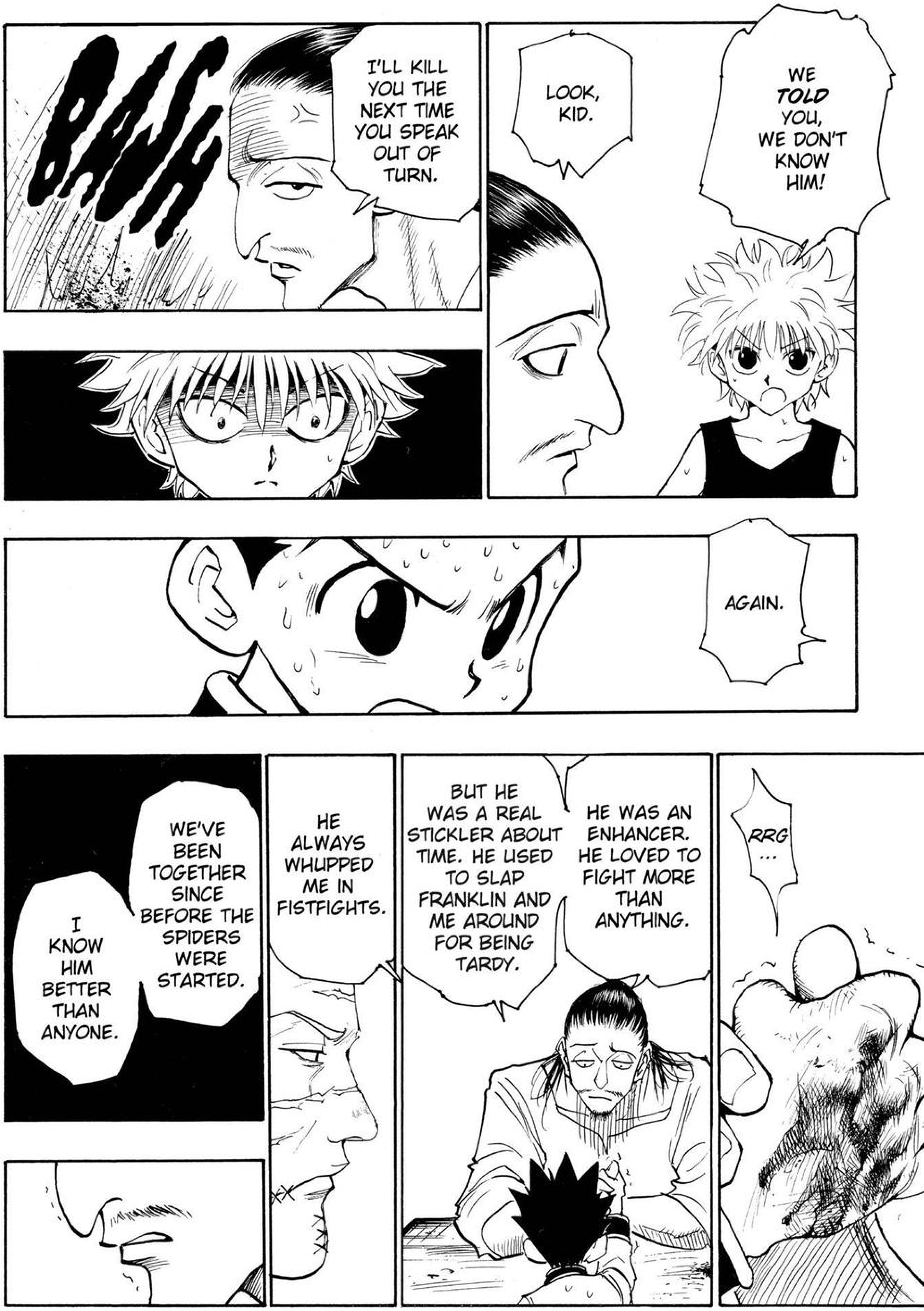

DON'T KNOW 'EM. ♥
HISOKA LIKES GON, SO HE MIGHT HELP US.
DON'T KNOW 'IM.

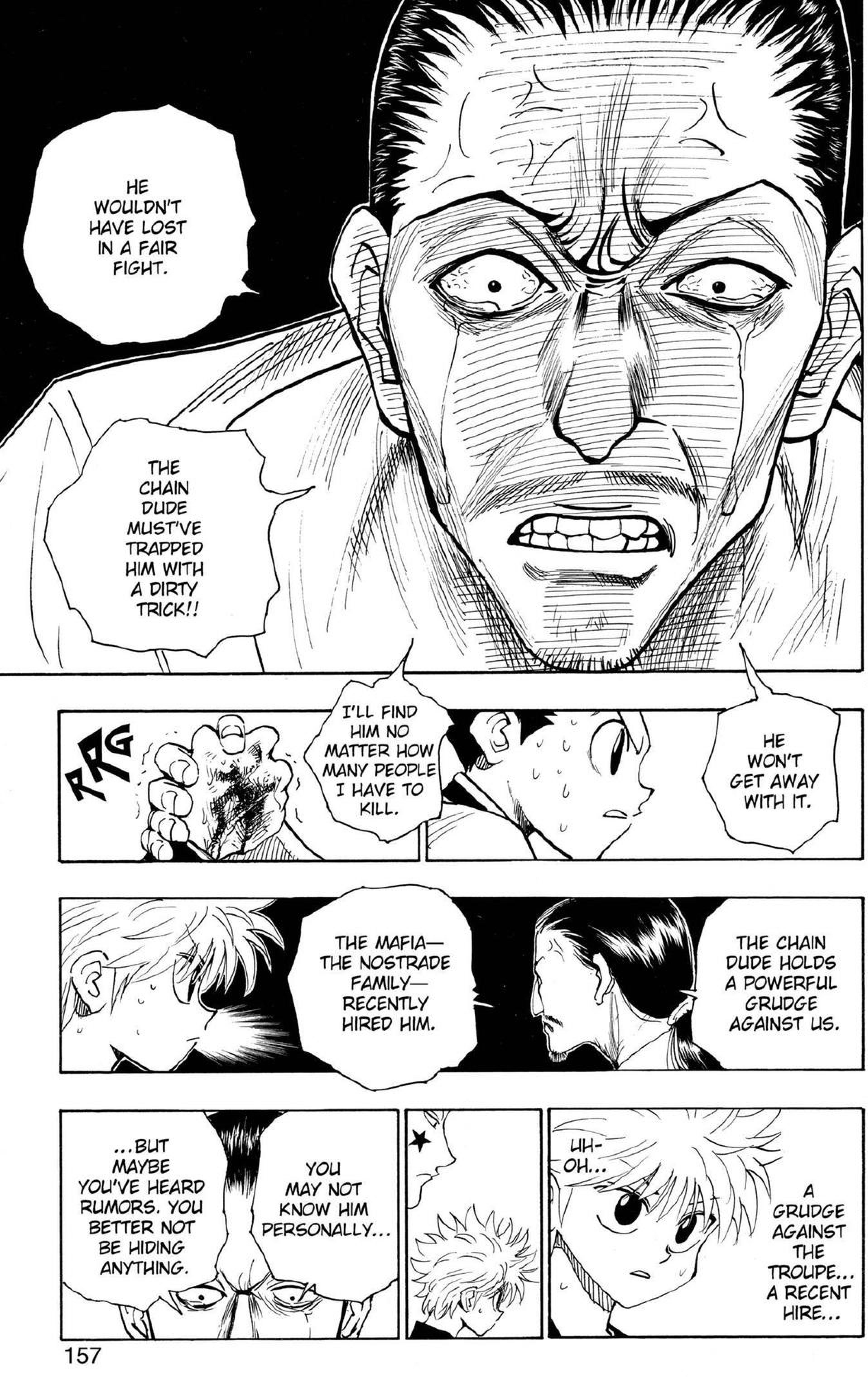

HEY!
UGGG
YOU IDIOT...
OH.
OOPS.
RECOGNIZE SOMEONE?
UH, WELL...
HEY, THAT GIRL...!
OH!
THAT GIRL!!

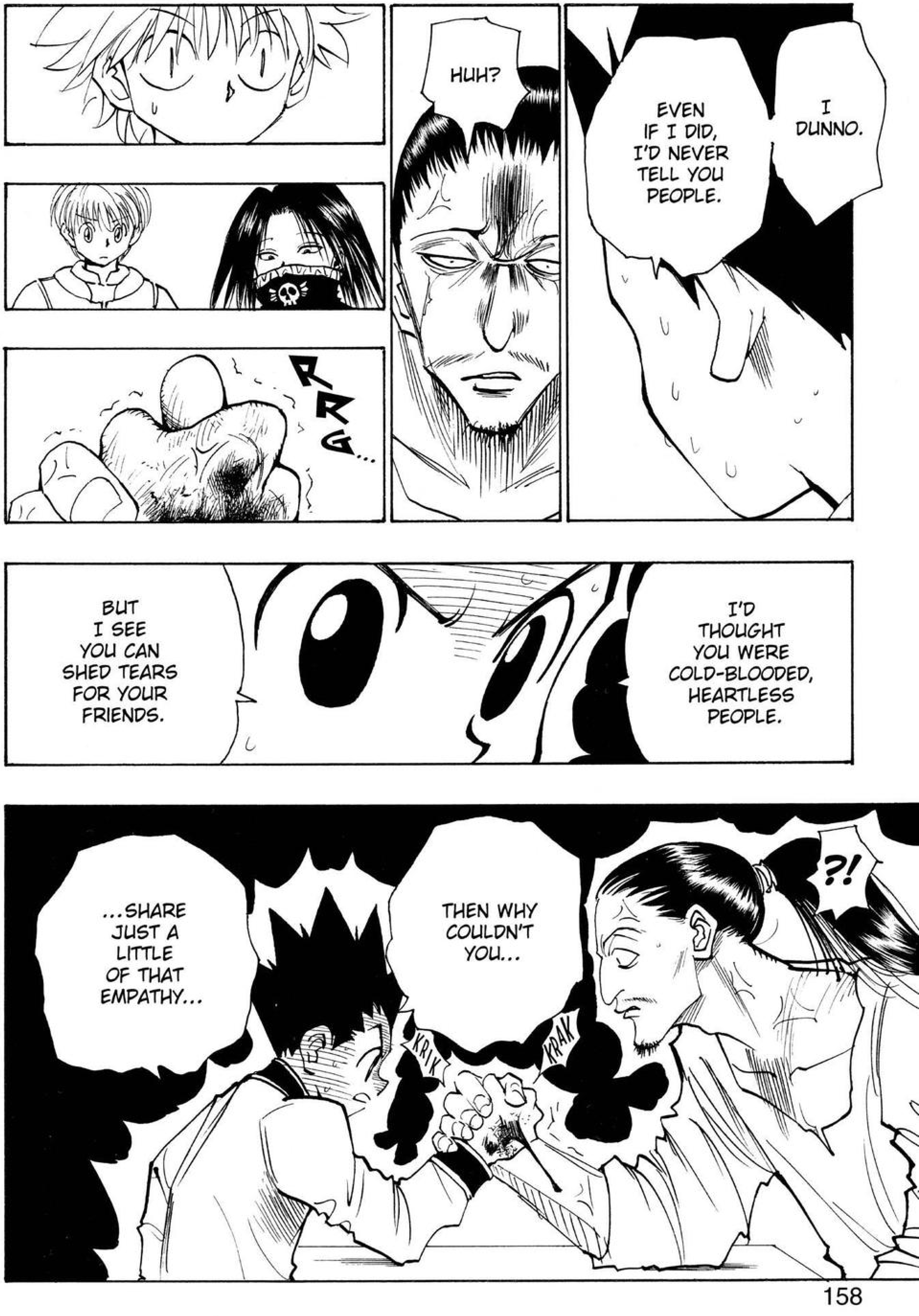

DO YOU KNOW THEM, SHIZUKU?
NO.
OH, I REMEMBER.
KID WHO ARM WRESTLE.
WHAT WAS THAT?
YOU ARM-WRESTLED HIM A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO. YOU LOST.
DON'T BOTHER. SHIZUKU NEVER REMEMBER ANYTHING SHE FORGOT.
NO WAY. EVEN I WOULDN'T LOSE TO A KID.
WELL, YOU USED YOUR RIGHT HAND.
HUH? BUT I'M LEFT-HANDED.
...
NEVER MIND. MY MISTAKE.
SEE?!
YOU BEAT SHIZUKU AT ARM-WRESTLING?
YEAH.
I DIDN'T KNOW SHE WAS IN THE TROUPE.
PHEW.
ALL RIGHT.
I'M GONNA TAKE YOU ON.

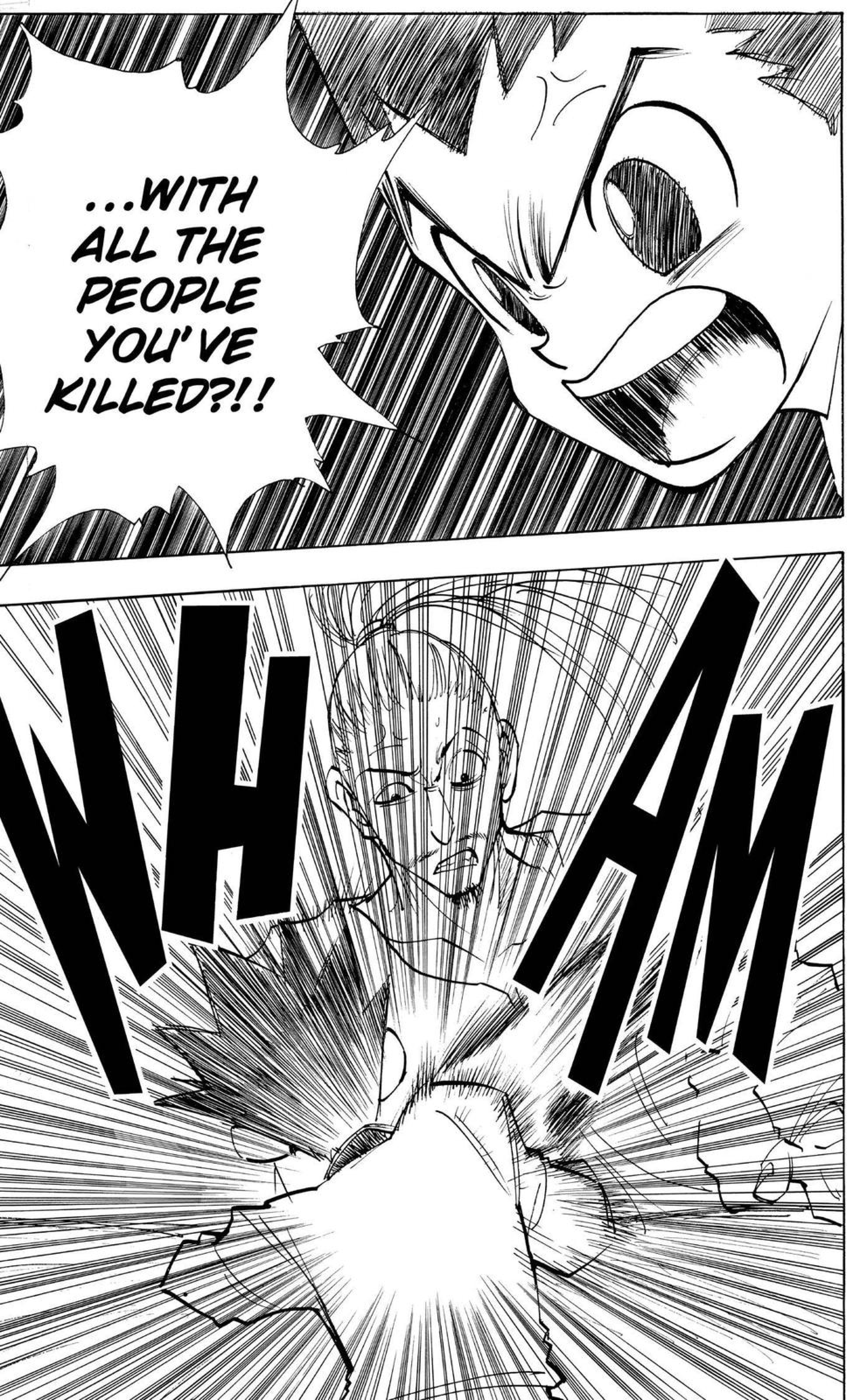

SLAM!!
...
AGAIN.
READY...?
GO!
RRG


BAM!!
AGAIN.
...
HEY.
HOW DO I RANK IN ARM-WRESTLING WITHIN THE TROUPE?
YOU'RE SEVENTH OR EIGHTH.
YOU'RE NOT WEAK, BUT YOU'RE NOT ONE OF THE STRONGEST, EITHER.
YEAH...
THE STRONGEST WAS A GUY CALLED UVOGIN.
HE'S WAS PROBABLY KILLED BY THE CHAIN DUDE.

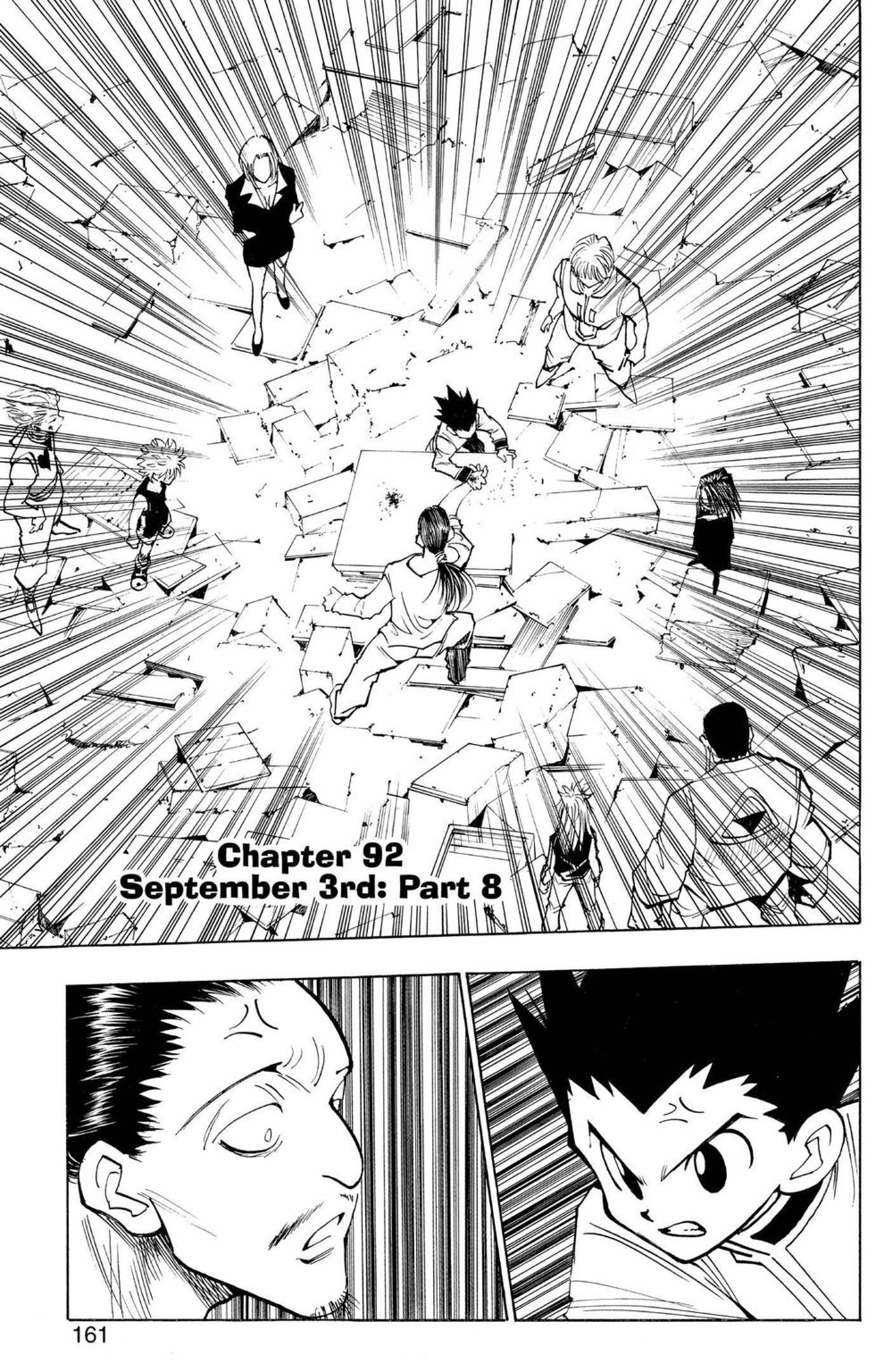

WE *TOLD* YOU, WE DON'T KNOW HIM!
LOOK, KID.
BAH
I'LL KILL YOU THE NEXT TIME YOU SPEAK OUT OF TURN.
AGAIN.
RRG ...
HE WAS AN ENHANCER. HE LOVED TO FIGHT MORE THAN ANYTHING.
BUT HE WAS A REAL STICKLER ABOUT TIME. HE USED TO SLAP FRANKLIN AND ME AROUND FOR BEING TARDY.
HE ALWAYS WHUPPED ME IN FISTFIGHTS.
WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER SINCE BEFORE THE SPIDERS WERE STARTED.
I KNOW HIM BETTER THAN ANYONE.


HE WOULDN'T HAVE LOST IN A FAIR FIGHT.
THE CHAIN DUDE MUST'VE TRAPPED HIM WITH A DIRTY TRICK!!
HE WON'T GET AWAY WITH IT.
I'LL FIND HIM NO MATTER HOW MANY PEOPLE I HAVE TO KILL.
RRG
THE CHAIN DUDE HOLDS A POWERFUL GRUDGE AGAINST US.
THE MAFIA— THE NOSTRADE FAMILY— RECENTLY HIRED HIM.
A GRUDGE AGAINST THE TROUPE... A RECENT HIRE...
UH-OH...
YOU MAY NOT KNOW HIM PERSONALLY...
...BUT MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD RUMORS. YOU BETTER NOT BE HIDING ANYTHING.


I DUNNO.
EVEN IF I DID, I'D NEVER TELL YOU PEOPLE.
HUH?
RRG...
I'D THOUGHT YOU WERE COLD-BLOODED, HEARTLESS PEOPLE.
BUT I SEE YOU CAN SHED TEARS FOR YOUR FRIENDS.
?!
THEN WHY COULDN'T YOU...
...SHARE JUST A LITTLE OF THAT EMPATHY...
KRAK
KRIK

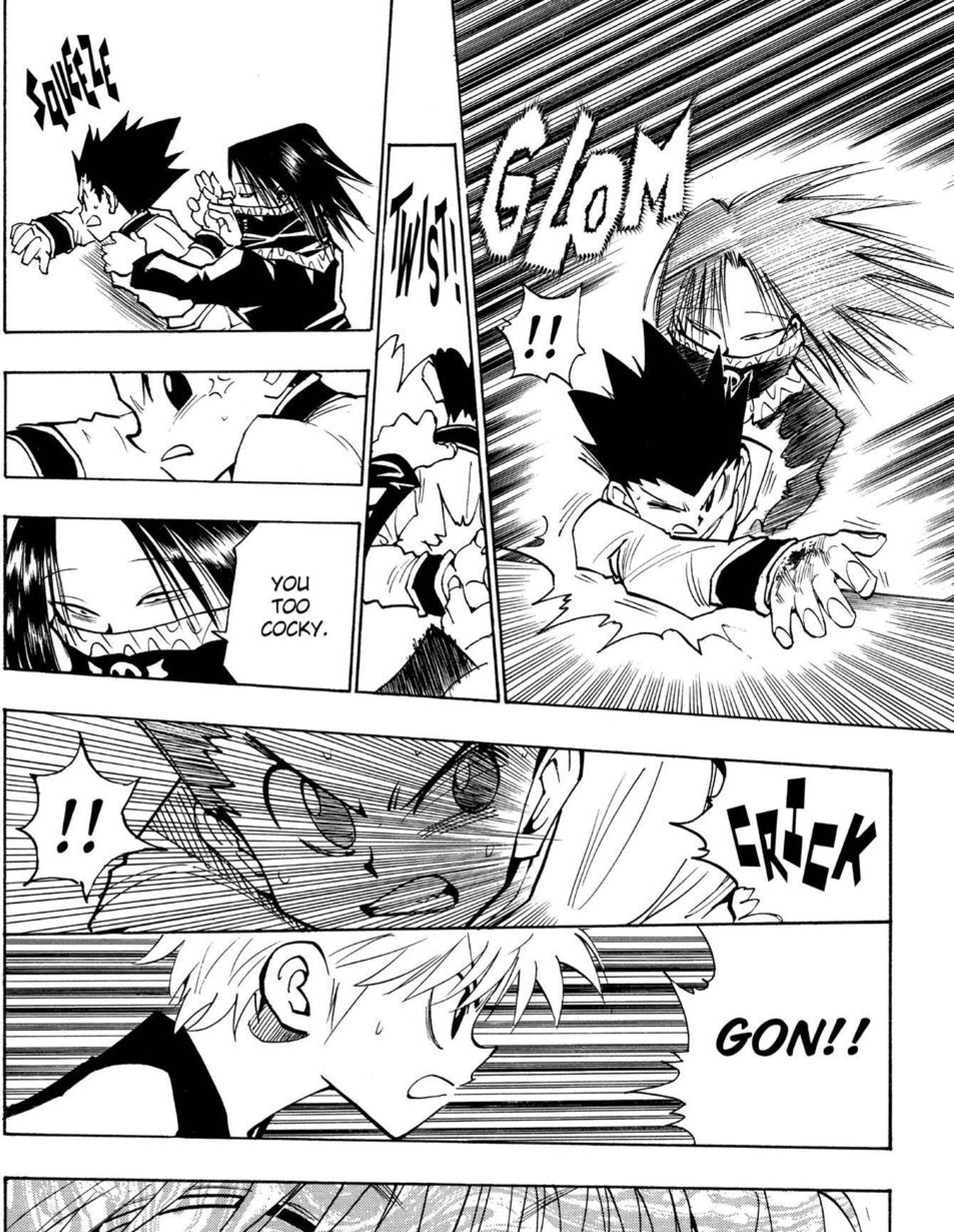

...WITH ALL THE PEOPLE YOU'VE KILLED?!!
WHAM

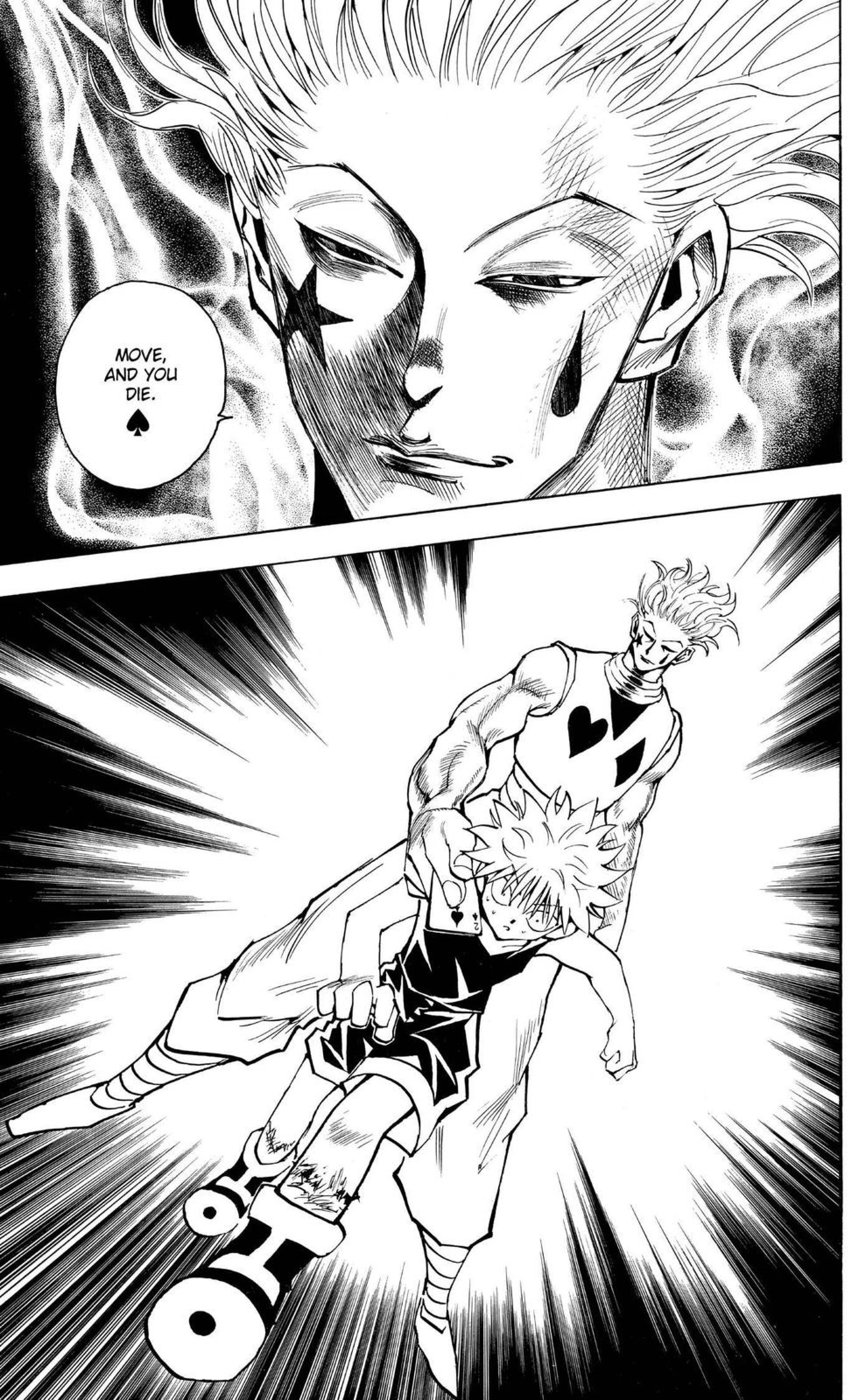
Chapter 92
September 3rd: Part 8

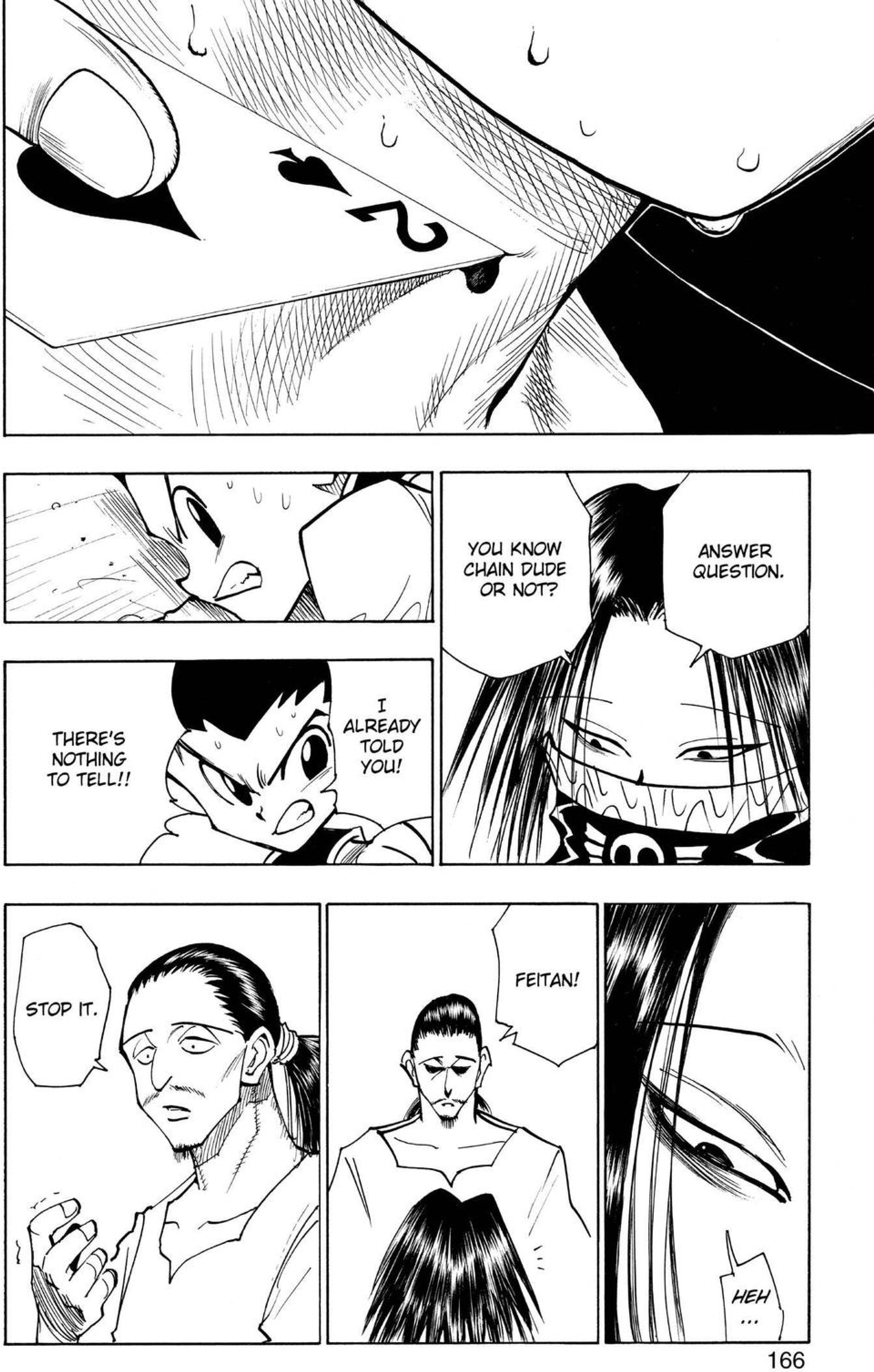


Chapter 92

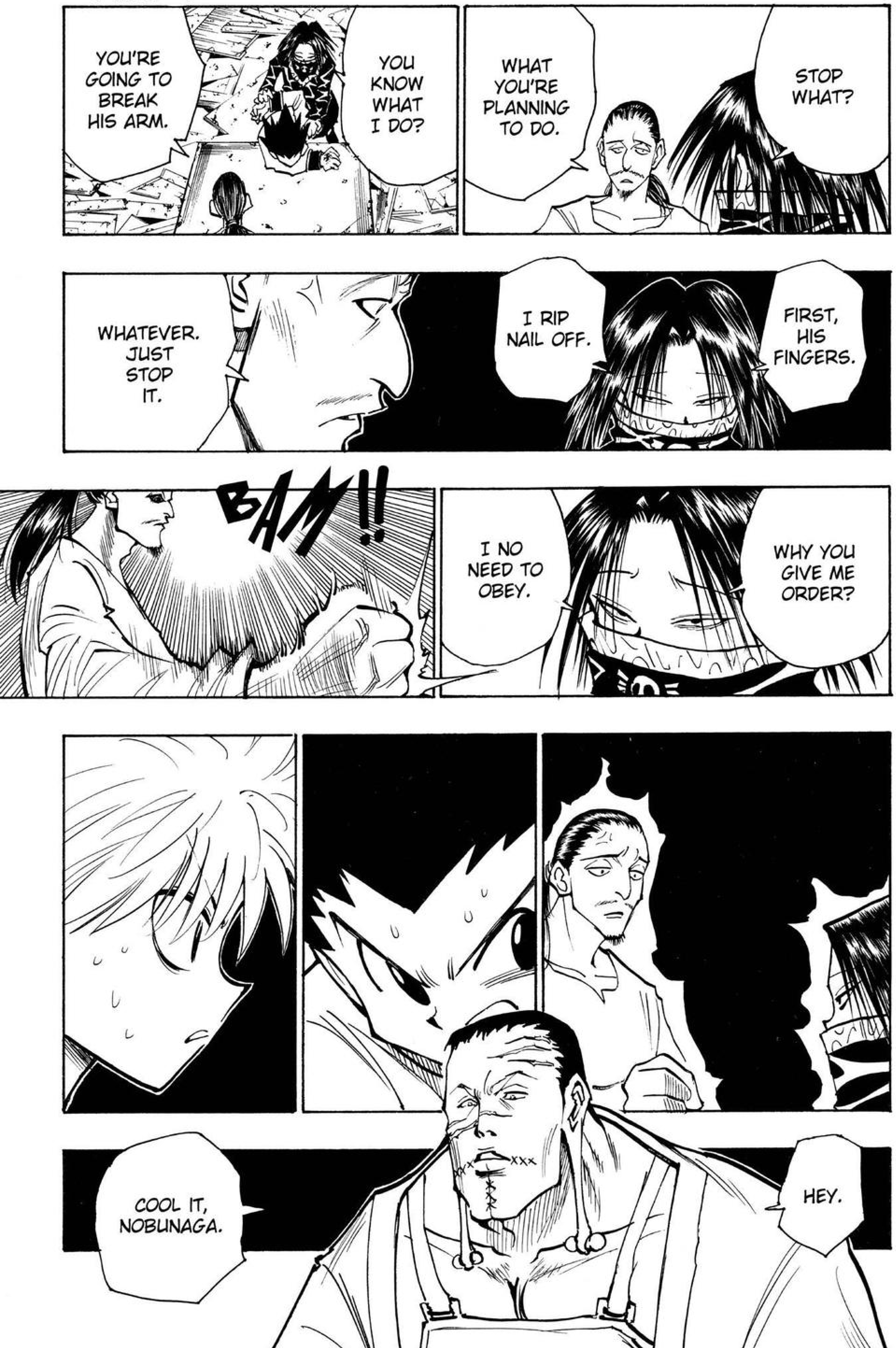
September 3rd: Part 8

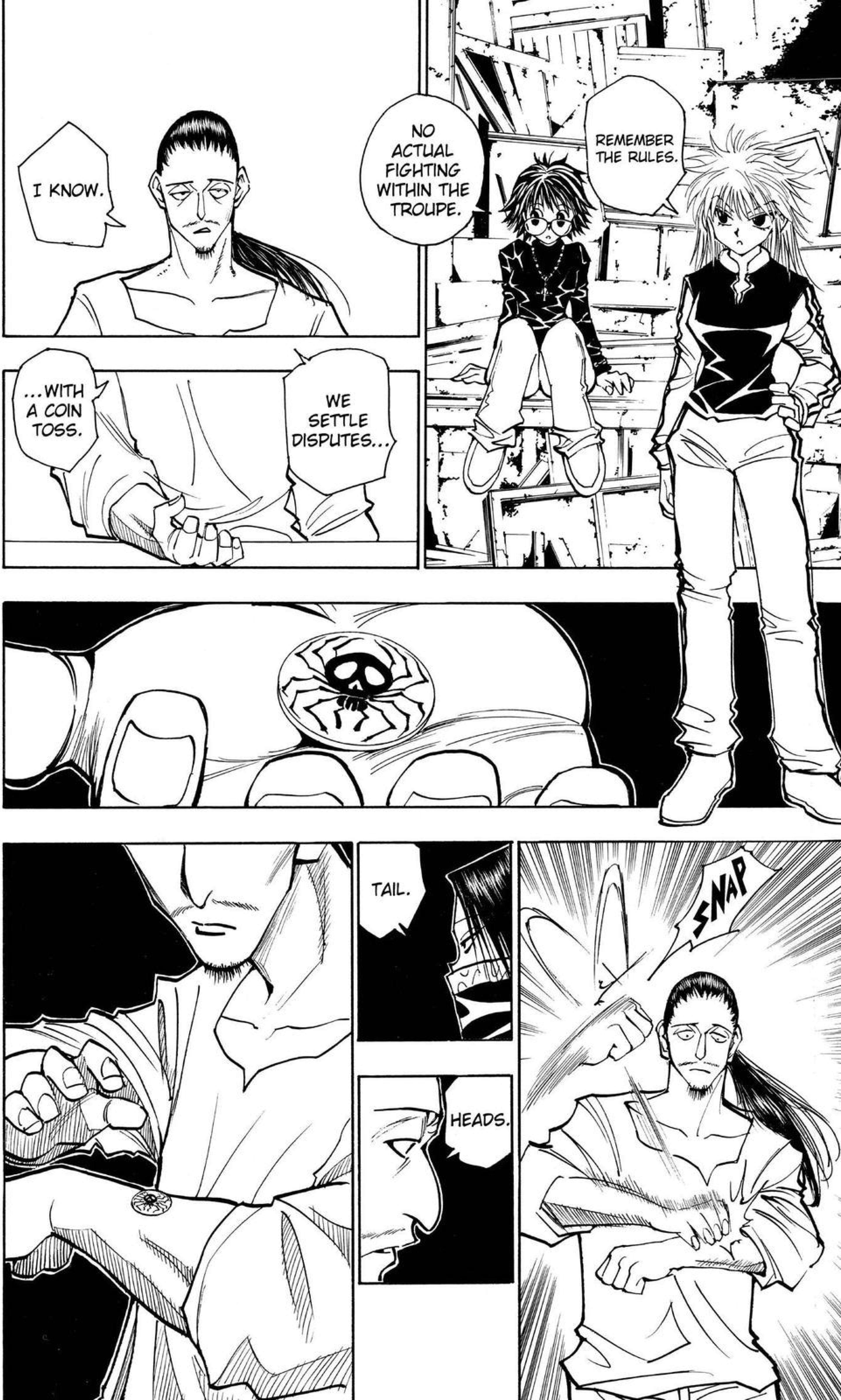

GLOM
!!
TWIST!!
SQUEEZE
YOU TOO COCKY.
CRICK
!!
GON!!


MOVE, AND YOU DIE. ♠

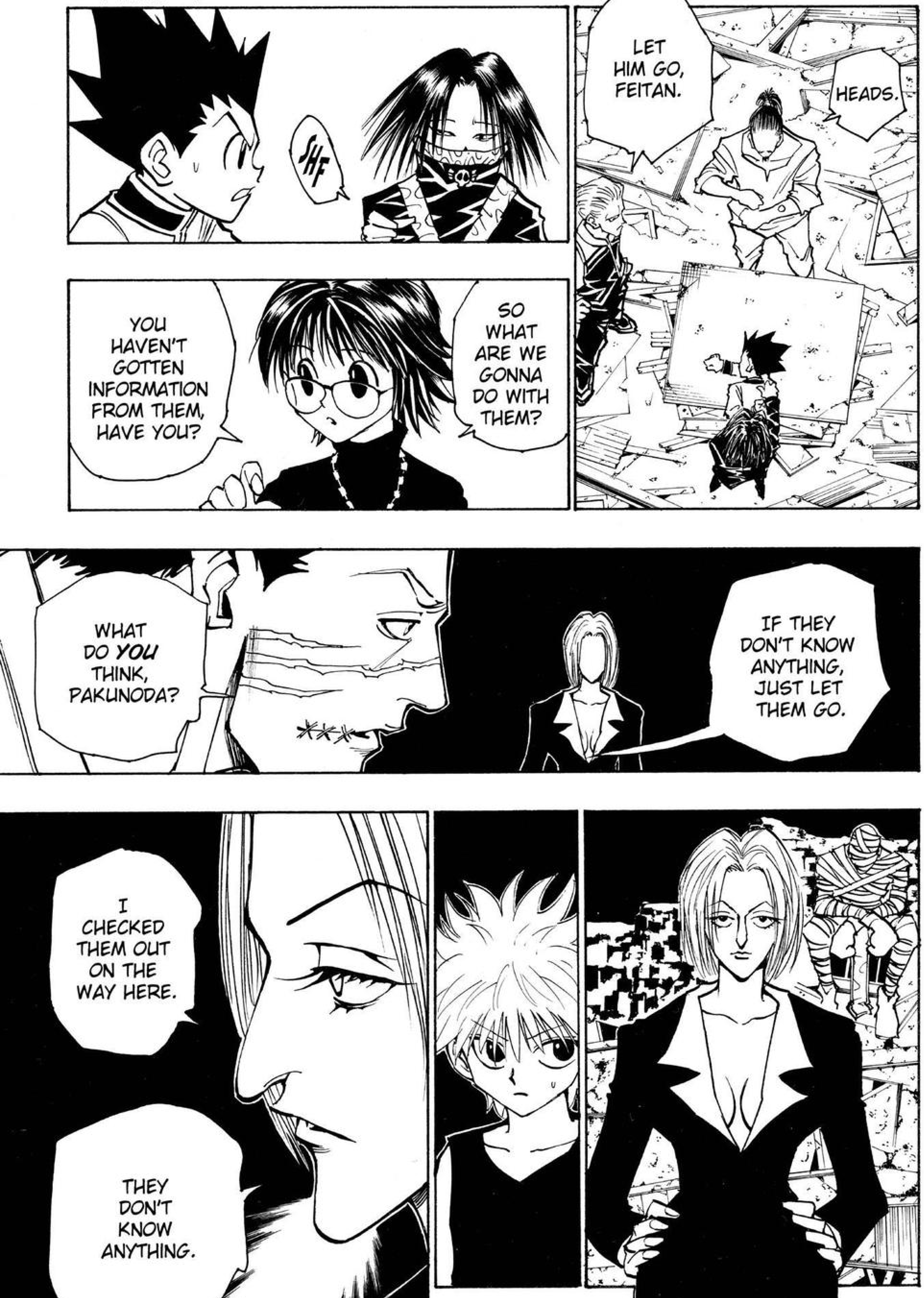

ANSWER QUESTION.
YOU KNOW CHAIN DUDE OR NOT?
I ALREADY TOLD YOU!
THERE'S NOTHING TO TELL!!
HEH ...
FEITAN!
STOP IT.

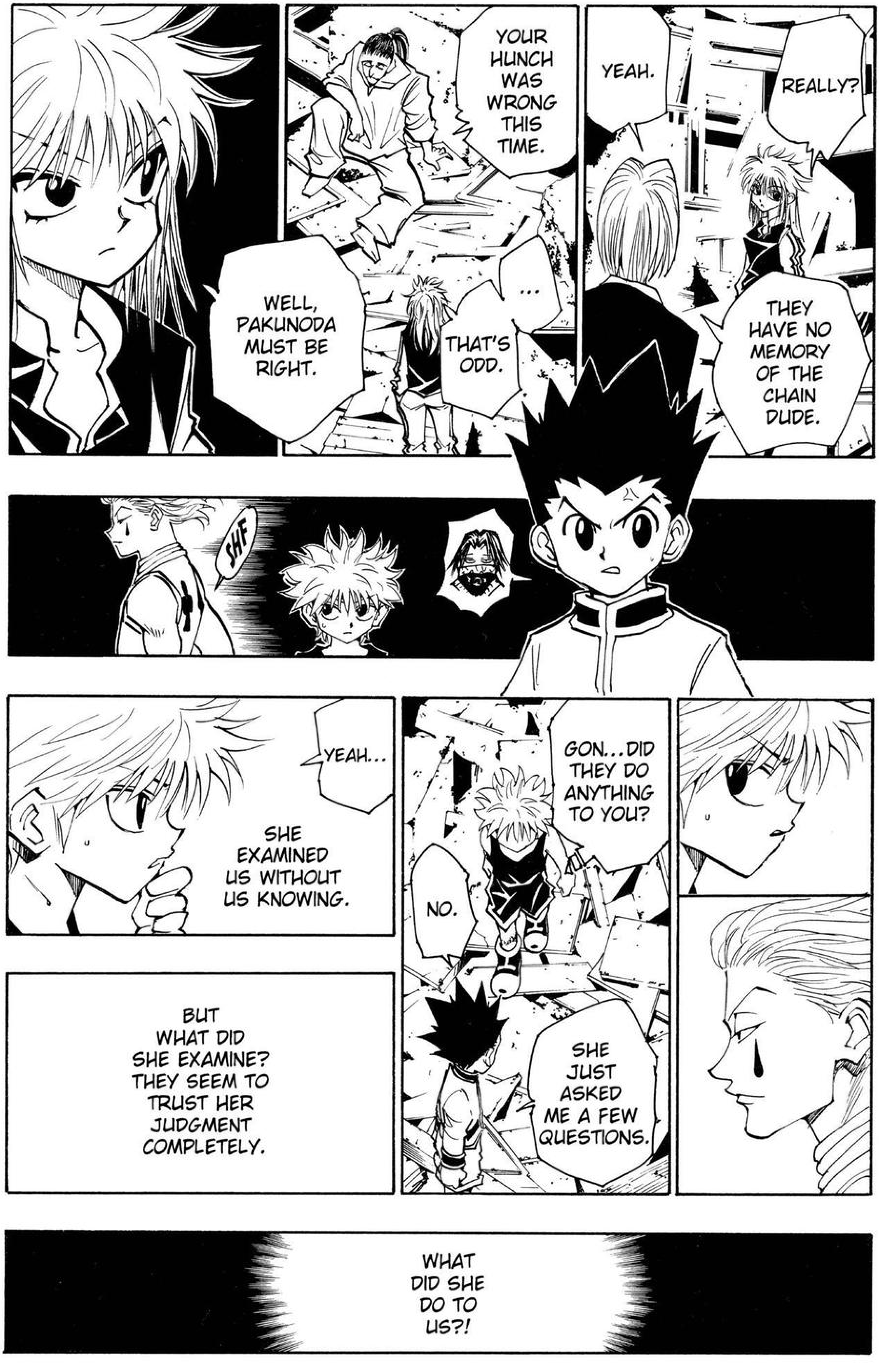
READ THIS WAY


STOP WHAT?
WHAT YOU'RE PLANNING TO DO.
YOU KNOW WHAT I DO?
YOU'RE GOING TO BREAK HIS ARM.
FIRST, HIS FINGERS.
I RIP NAIL OFF.
WHATEVER. JUST STOP IT.
WHY YOU GIVE ME ORDER?
I NO NEED TO OBEY.
BAM!!
HEY.
COOL IT, NOBUNAGA.

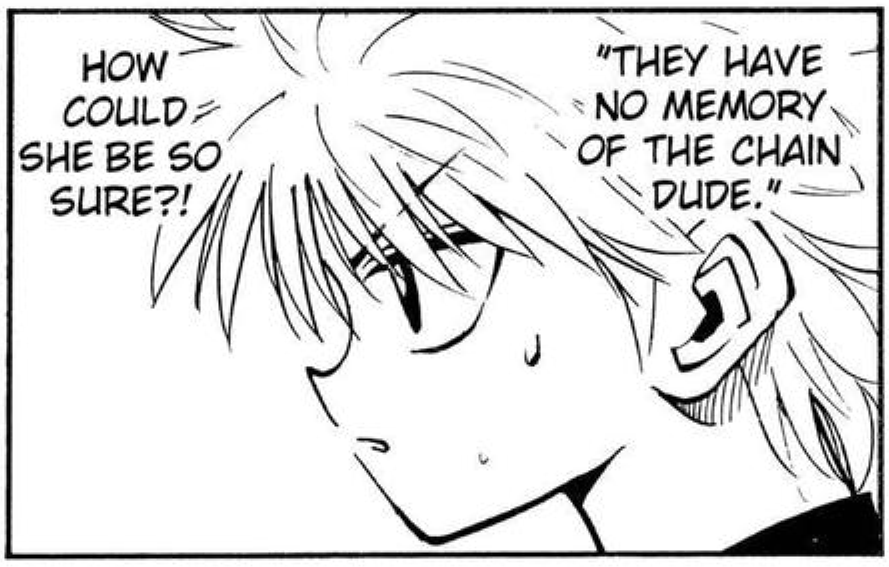

REMEMBER THE RULES.
NO ACTUAL FIGHTING WITHIN THE TROUPE.
I KNOW.
WE SETTLE DISPUTES...
...WITH A COIN TOSS.
SNAP
TAIL.
HEADS.

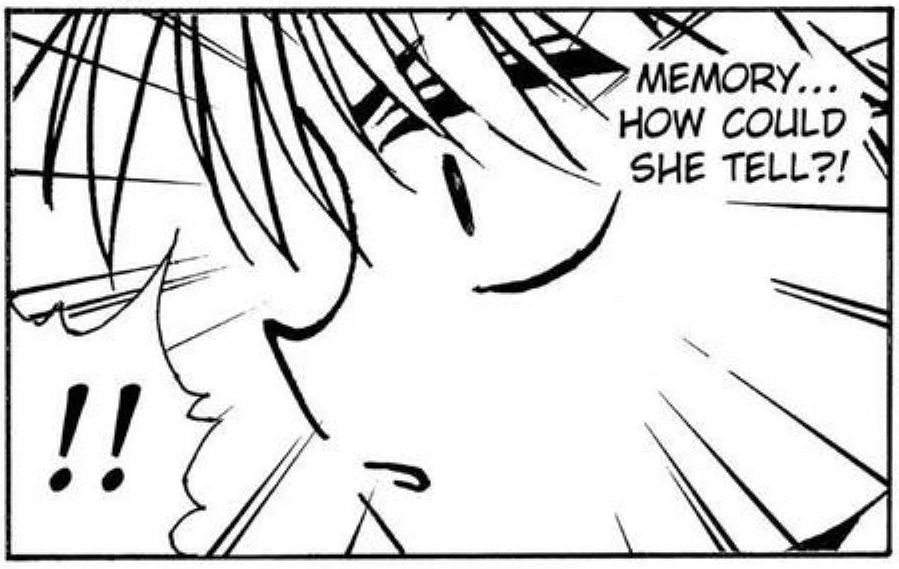
READ THIS WAY

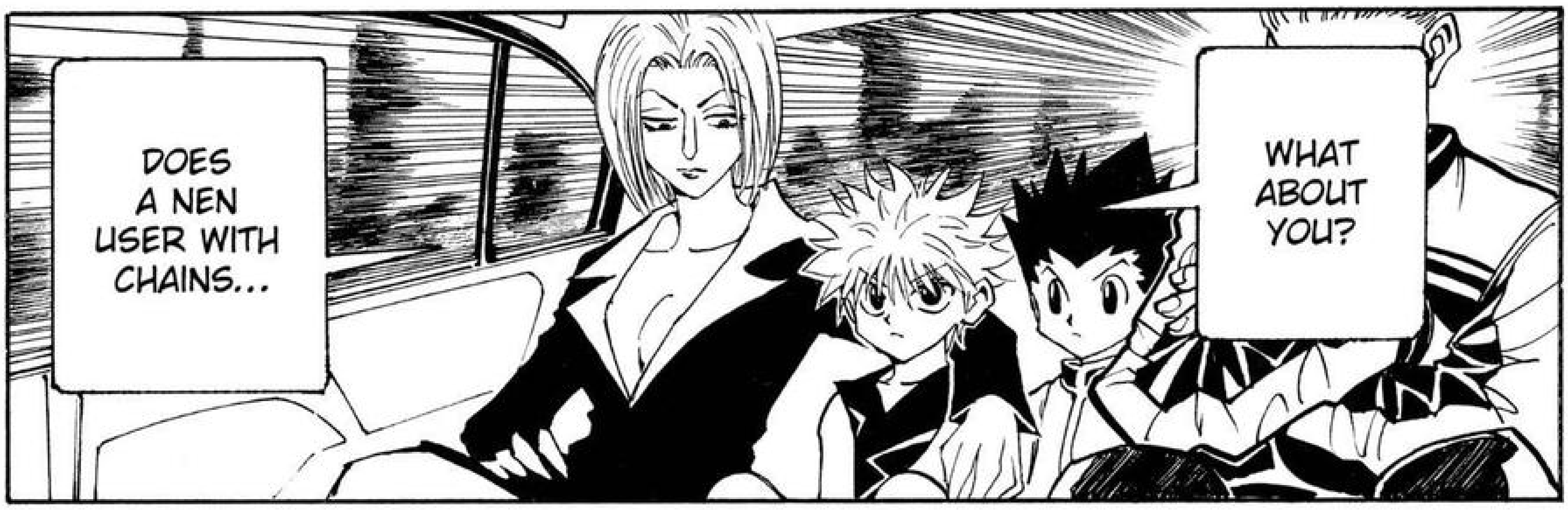

HEADS.
LET HIM GO, FEITAN.
SHF
SO WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO WITH THEM?
YOU HAVEN'T GOTTEN INFORMATION FROM THEM, HAVE YOU?
IF THEY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING, JUST LET THEM GO.
WHAT DO *YOU* THINK, PAKUNODA?
I CHECKED THEM OUT ON THE WAY HERE.
THEY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING.

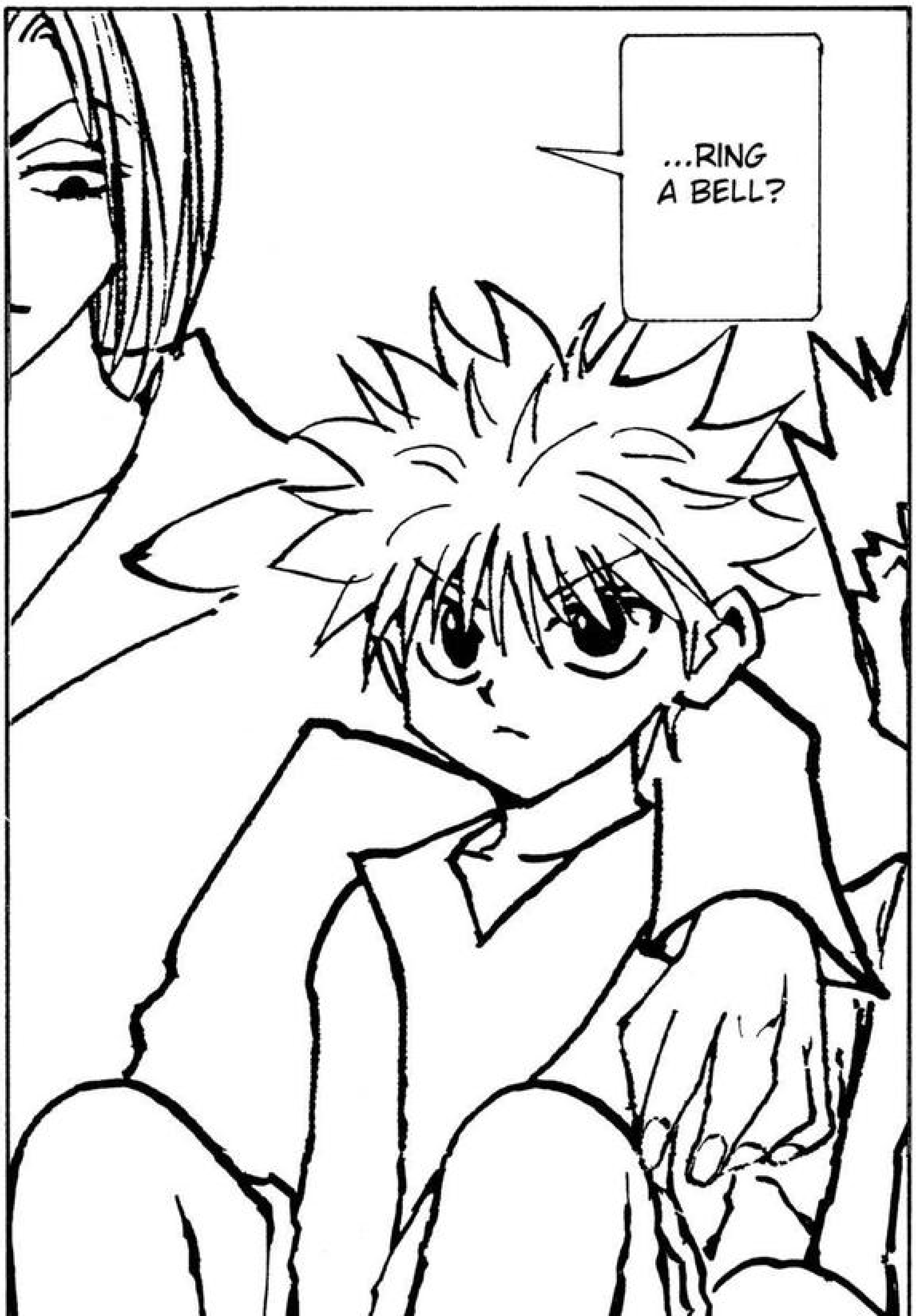

REALLY?
YEAH.
THEY HAVE NO MEMORY OF THE CHAIN DUDE.
YOUR HUNCH WAS WRONG THIS TIME.
...
THAT'S ODD.
WELL, PAKUNODA MUST BE RIGHT.
SHF
GON...DID THEY DO ANYTHING TO YOU?
NO.
SHE JUST ASKED ME A FEW QUESTIONS.
YEAH...
SHE EXAMINED US WITHOUT US KNOWING.
BUT WHAT DID SHE EXAMINE? THEY SEEM TO TRUST HER JUDGMENT COMPLETELY.
WHAT DID SHE DO TO US?!

READ THIS WAY


"THEY HAVE NO MEMORY OF THE CHAIN DUDE."
HOW COULD SHE BE SO SURE?!

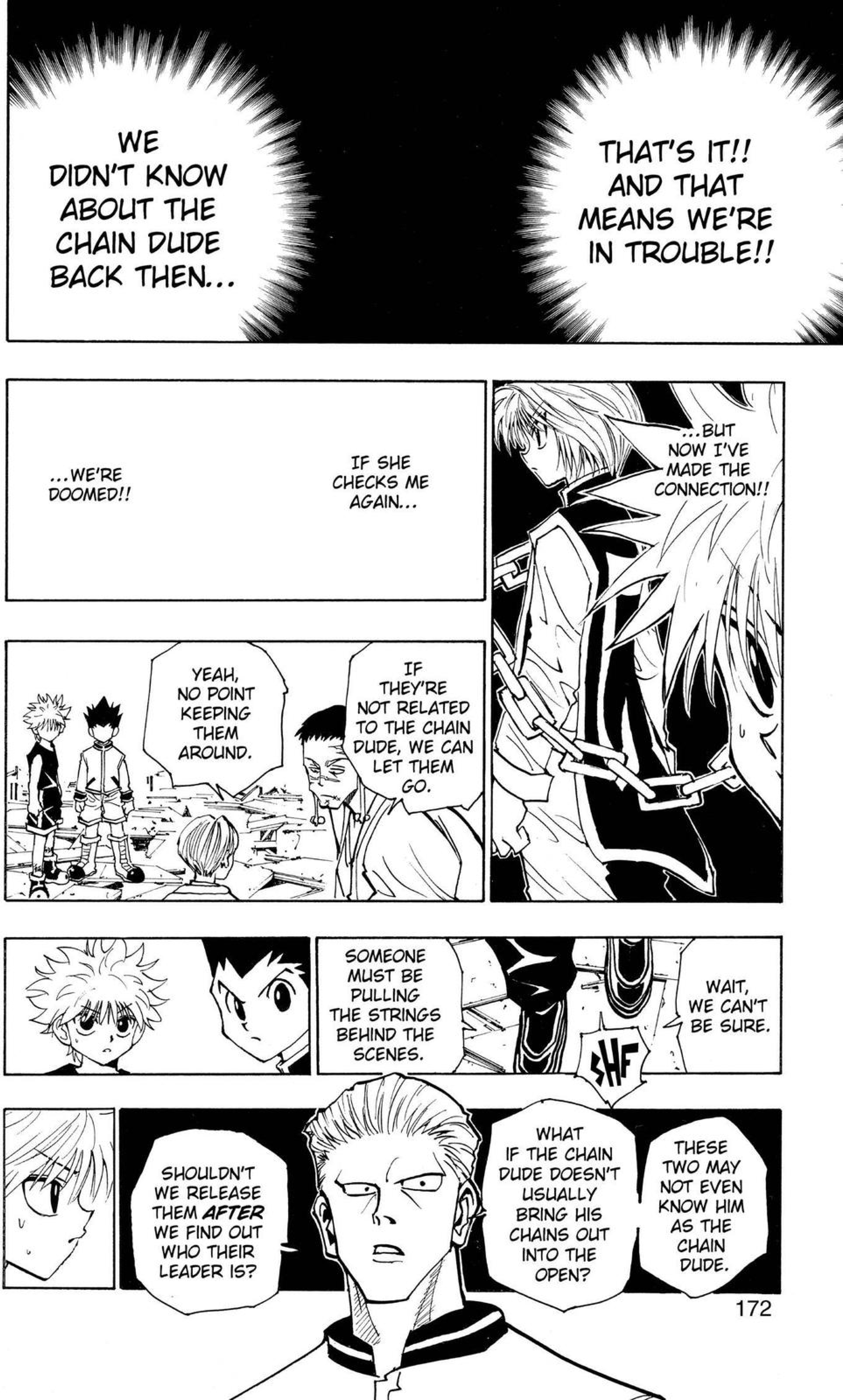

MEMORY... HOW COULD SHE TELL?!
!!

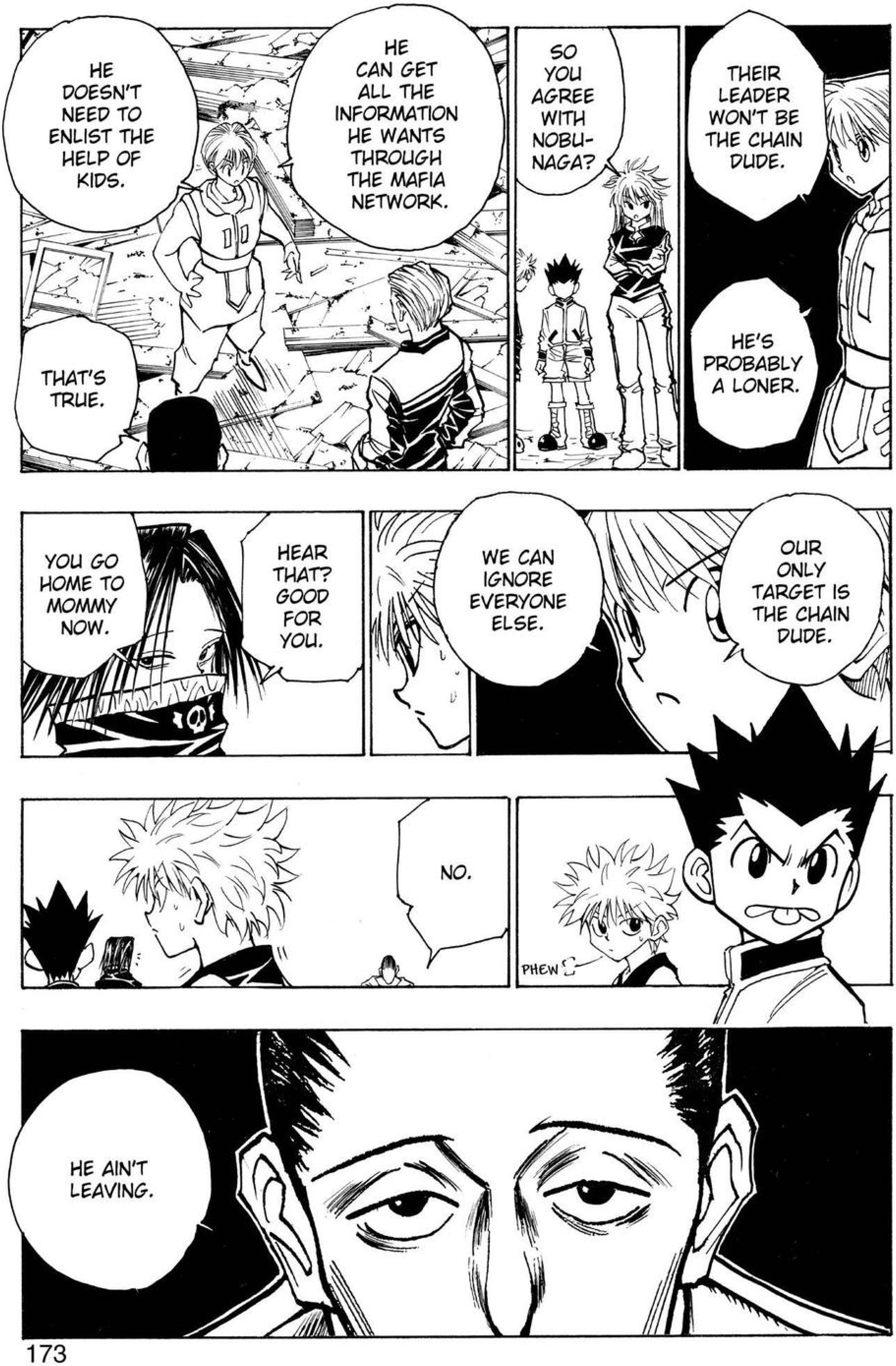

WHAT ABOUT YOU?
DOES A NEN USER WITH CHAINS...

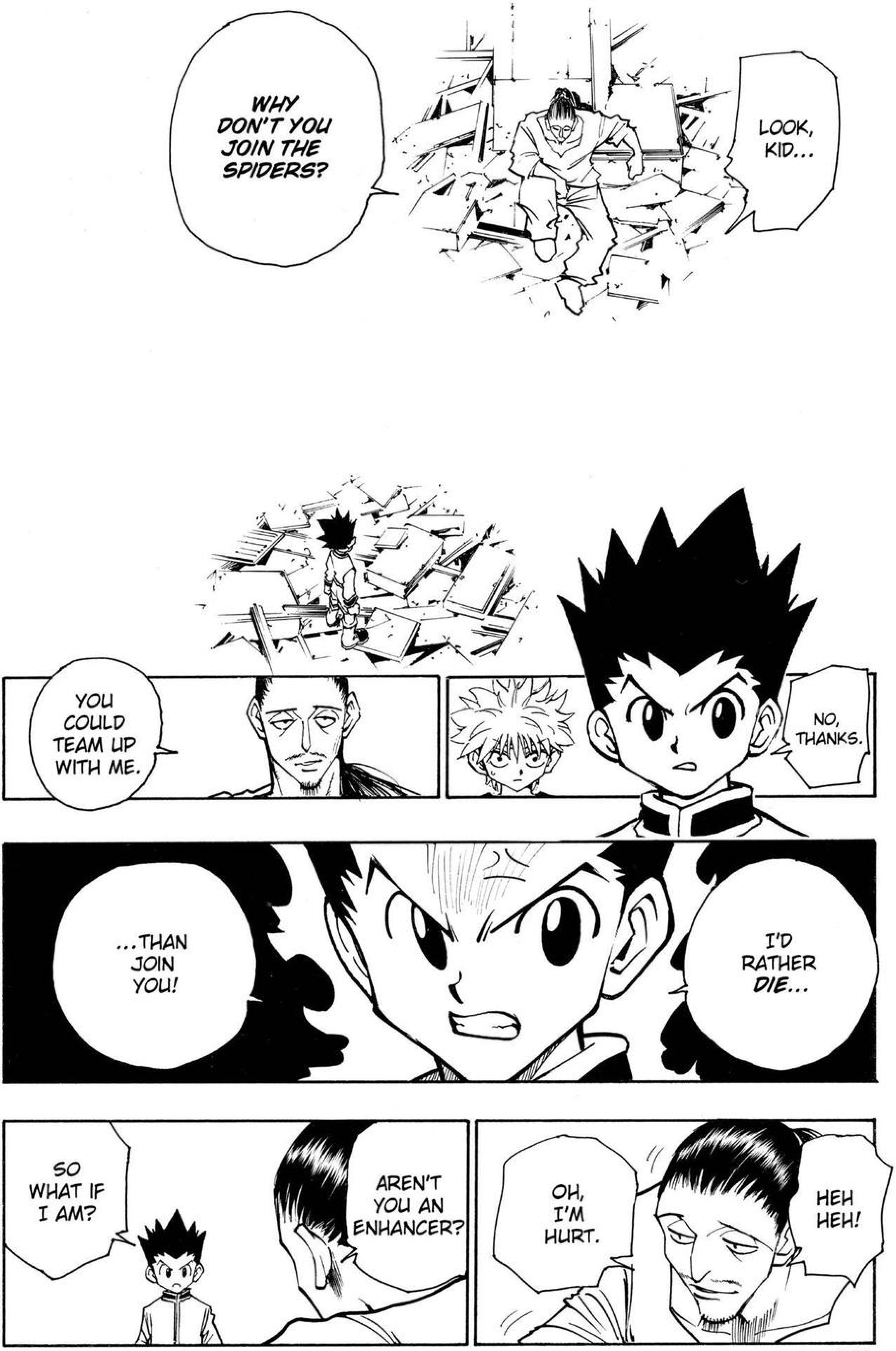


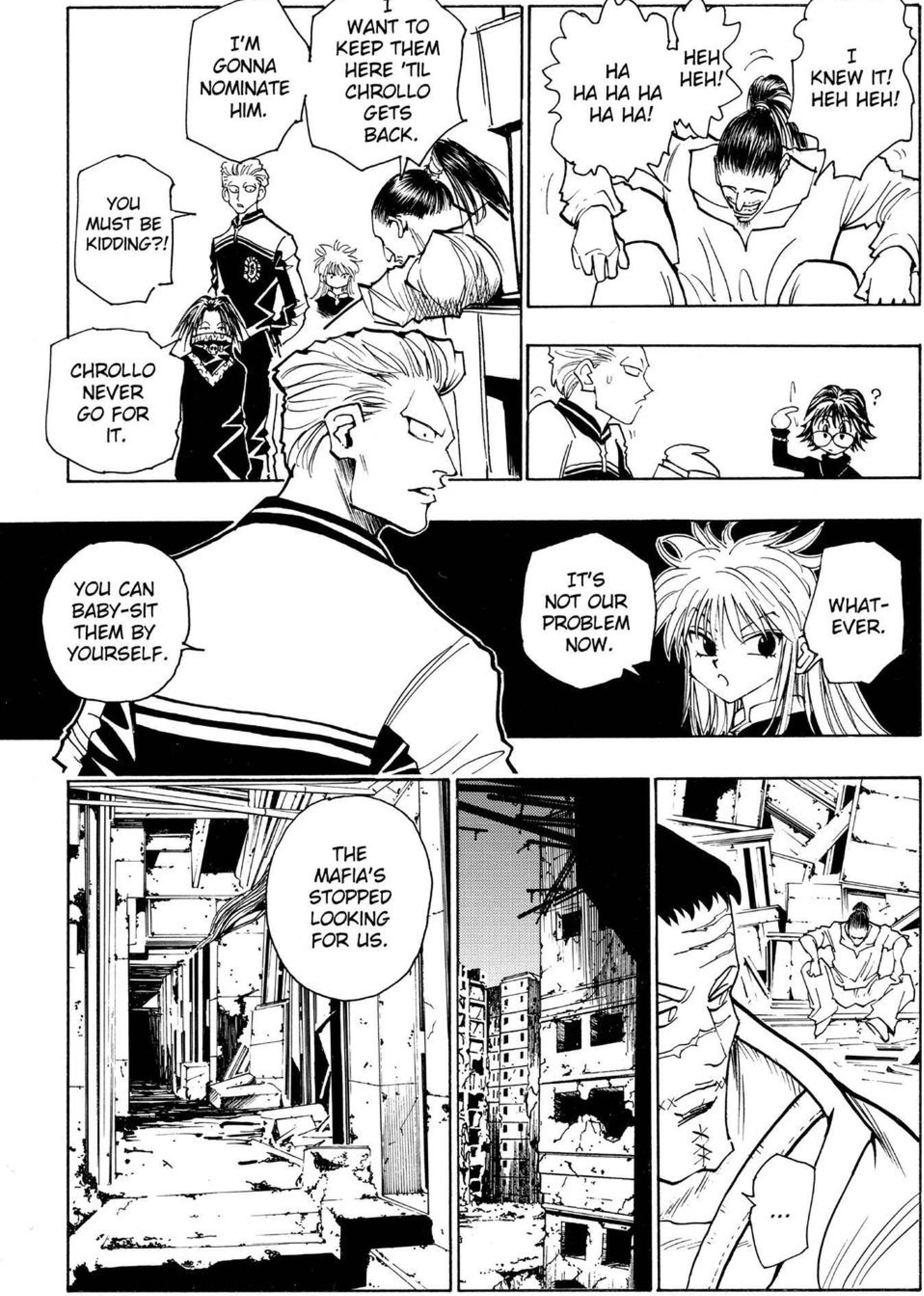
SHE'S ABLE TO READ MEMORIES...

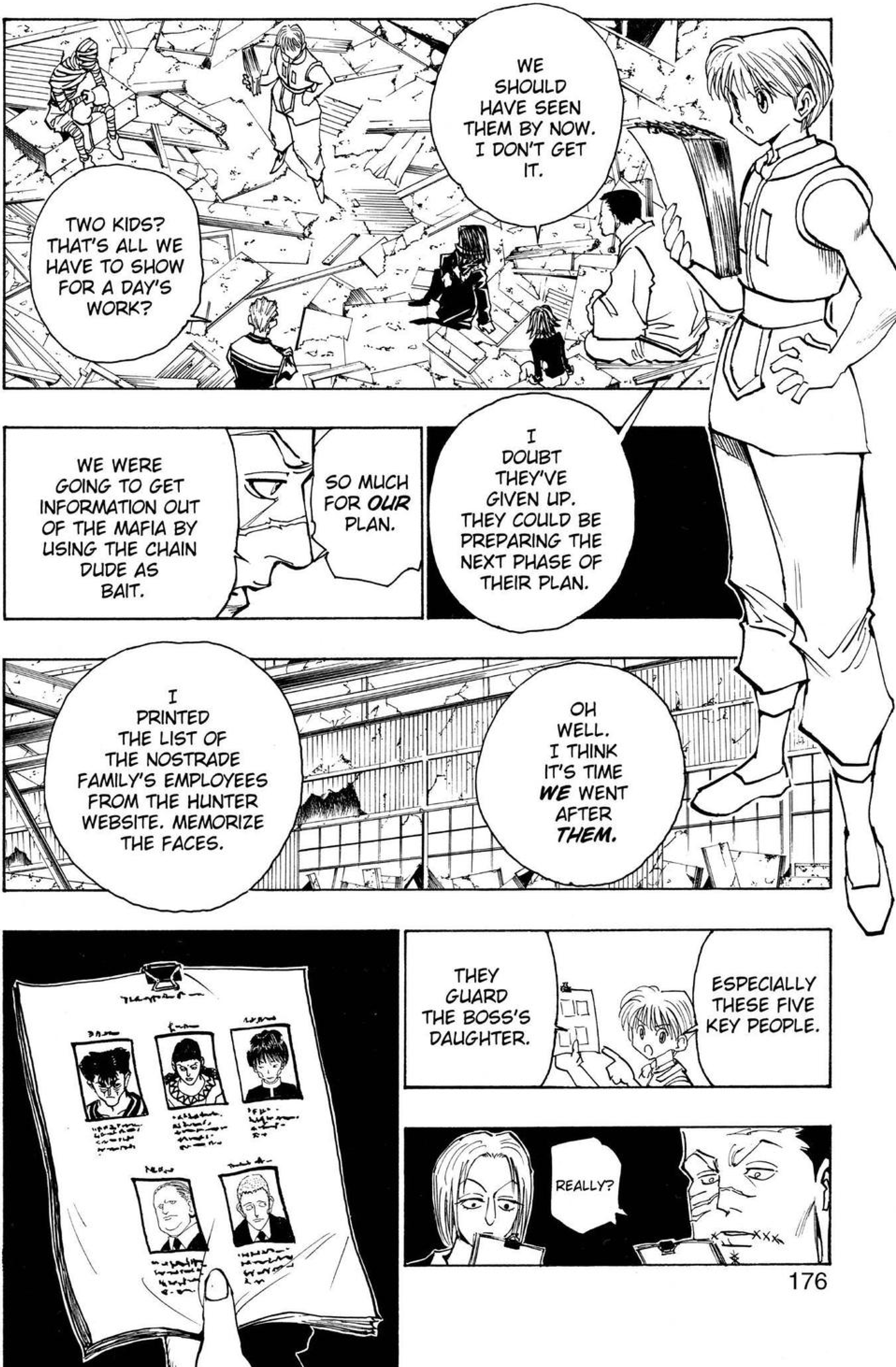
...BY TOUCHING THE PERSON!!

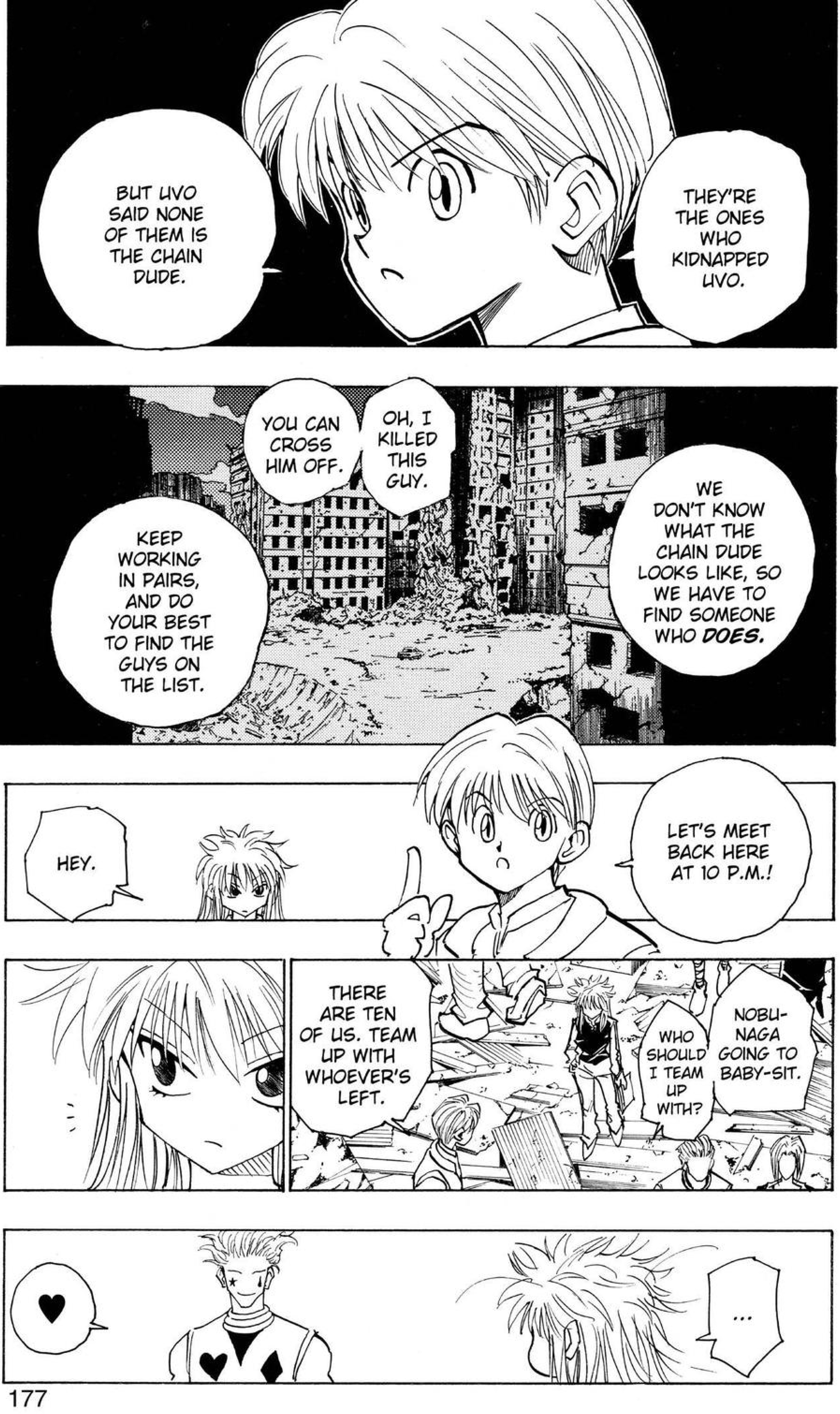

THAT'S IT!! AND THAT MEANS WE'RE IN TROUBLE!!
WE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE CHAIN DUDE BACK THEN...
...BUT NOW I'VE MADE THE CONNECTION!!
IF SHE CHECKS ME AGAIN...
...WE'RE DOOMED!!
IF THEY'RE NOT RELATED TO THE CHAIN DUDE, WE CAN LET THEM GO.
YEAH, NO POINT KEEPING THEM AROUND.
WAIT, WE CAN'T BE SURE.
SHF
SOMEONE MUST BE PULLING THE STRINGS BEHIND THE SCENES.
THESE TWO MAY NOT EVEN KNOW HIM AS THE CHAIN DUDE.
WHAT IF THE CHAIN DUDE DOESN'T USUALLY BRING HIS CHAINS OUT INTO THE OPEN?
SHOULDN'T WE RELEASE THEM *AFTER* WE FIND OUT WHO THEIR LEADER IS?

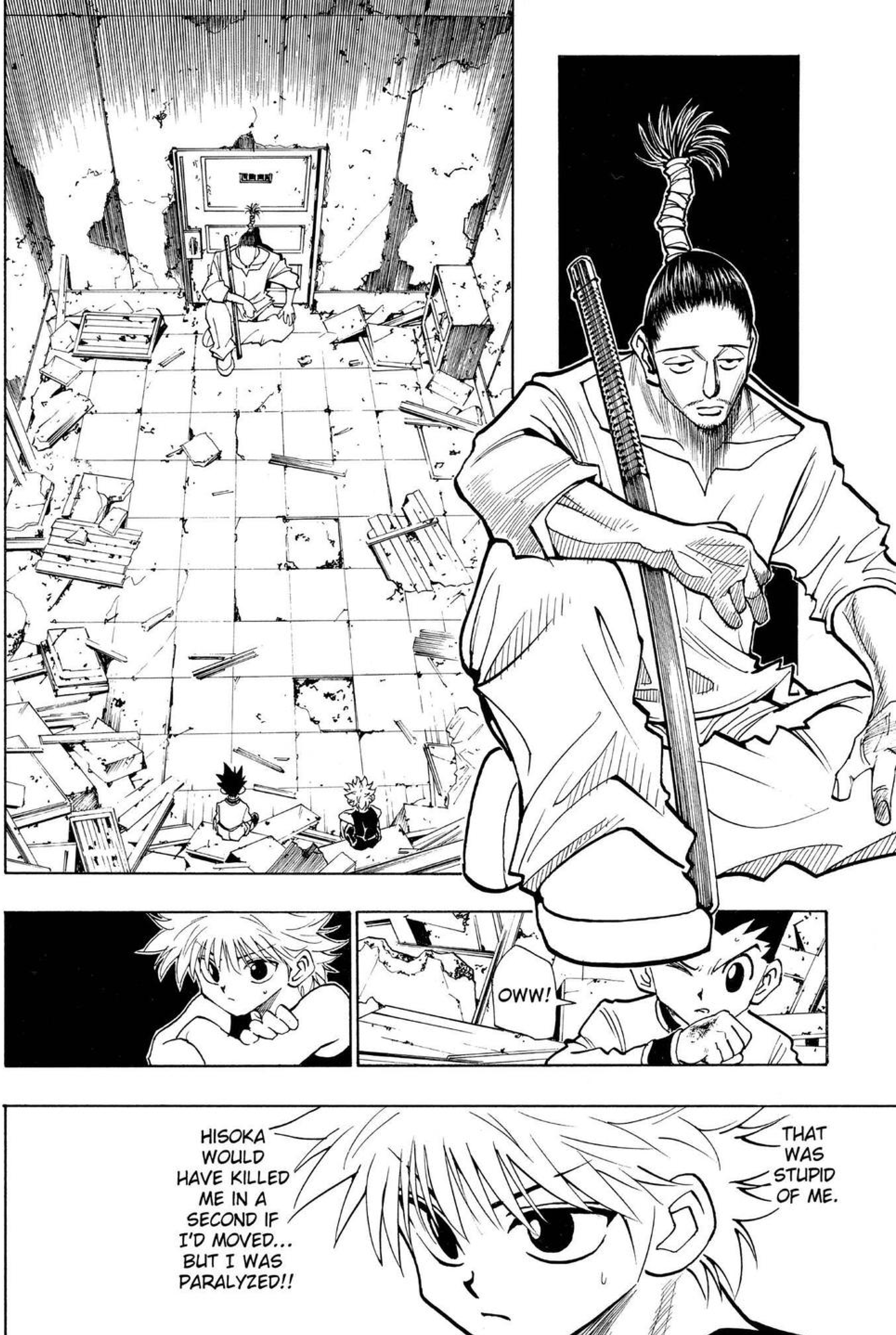

THEIR LEADER WON'T BE THE CHAIN DUDE.
HE'S PROBABLY A LONER.
SO YOU AGREE WITH NOBU-NAGA?
HE CAN GET ALL THE INFORMATION HE WANTS THROUGH THE MAFIA NETWORK.
HE DOESN'T NEED TO ENLIST THE HELP OF KIDS.
THAT'S TRUE.
OUR ONLY TARGET IS THE CHAIN DUDE.
WE CAN IGNORE EVERYONE ELSE.
HEAR THAT? GOOD FOR YOU.
YOU GO HOME TO MOMMY NOW.
PHEW
NO.
HE AIN'T LEAVING.


LOOK, KID...
WHY DON'T YOU JOIN THE SPIDERS?
NO, THANKS.
YOU COULD TEAM UP WITH ME.
I'D RATHER *DIE*...
...THAN JOIN YOU!
HEH HEH!
OH, I'M HURT.
AREN'T YOU AN ENHANCER?
SO WHAT IF I AM?

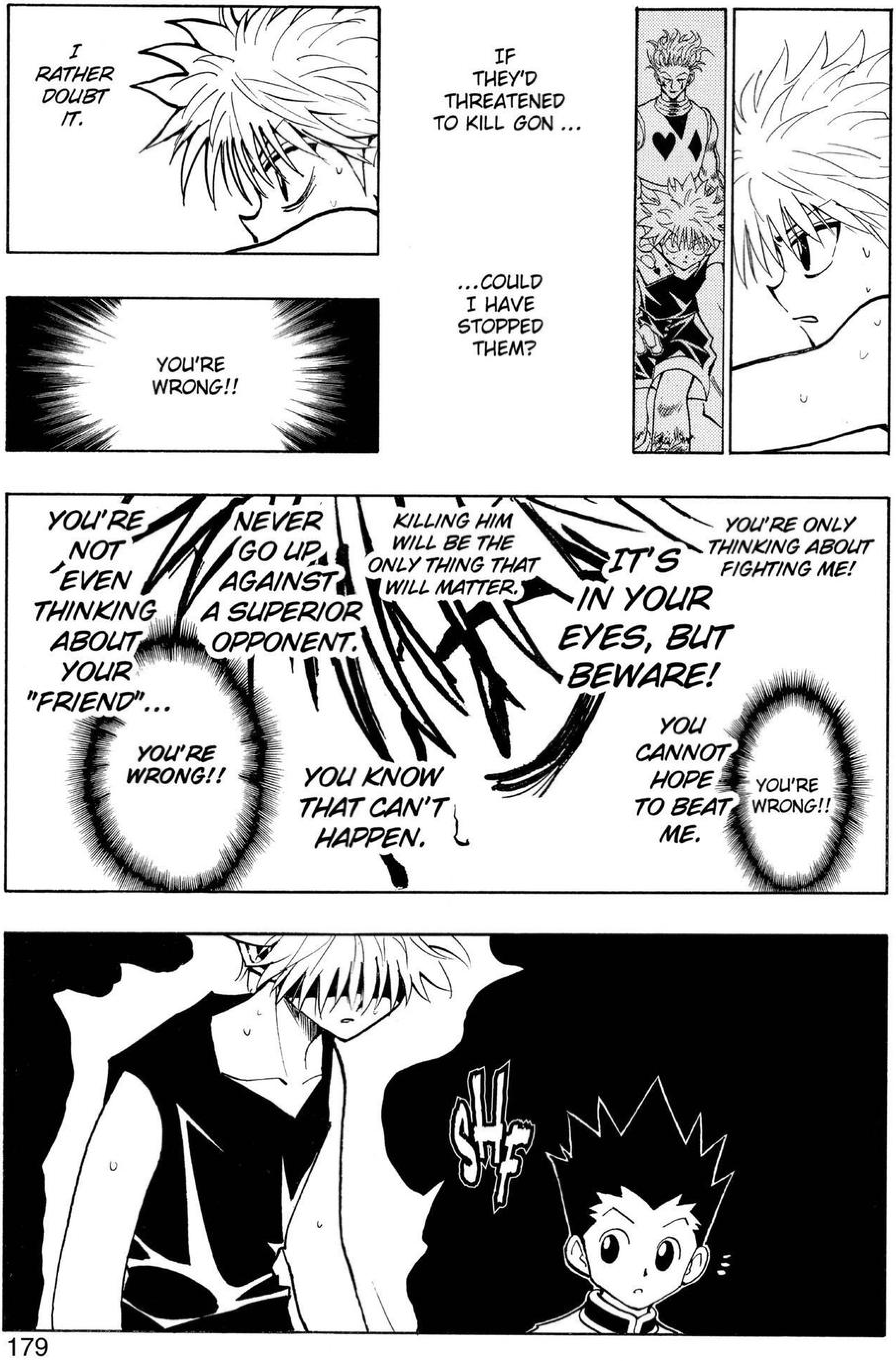

I KNEW IT! HEH HEH!
HEH HEH!
HA HA HA HA HA HA!
I WANT TO KEEP THEM HERE 'TIL CHROLLO GETS BACK.
I'M GONNA NOMINATE HIM.
YOU MUST BE KIDDING?!
CHROLLO NEVER GO FOR IT.
?
WHATEVER.
IT'S NOT OUR PROBLEM NOW.
YOU CAN BABY-SIT THEM BY YOURSELF.
...
THE MAFIA'S STOPPED LOOKING FOR US.

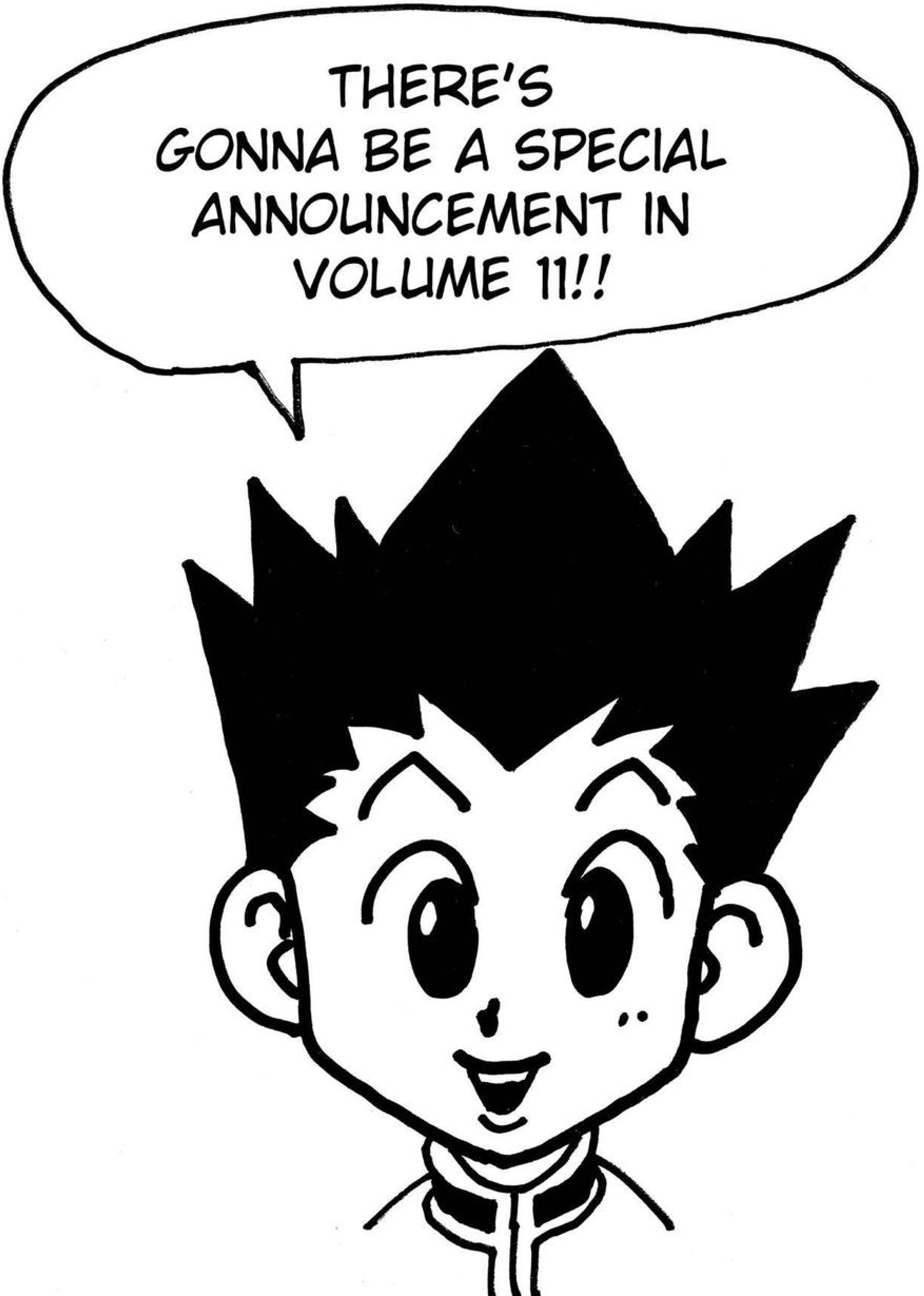

TWO KIDS? THAT'S ALL WE HAVE TO SHOW FOR A DAY'S WORK?
WE SHOULD HAVE SEEN THEM BY NOW. I DON'T GET IT.
WE WERE GOING TO GET INFORMATION OUT OF THE MAFIA BY USING THE CHAIN DUDE AS BAIT.
SO MUCH FOR *OUR* PLAN.
I DOUBT THEY'VE GIVEN UP. THEY COULD BE PREPARING THE NEXT PHASE OF THEIR PLAN.
I PRINTED THE LIST OF THE NOSTRADE FAMILY'S EMPLOYEES FROM THE HUNTER WEBSITE. MEMORIZE THE FACES.
OH WELL. I THINK IT'S TIME *WE* WENT AFTER *THEM.*
ESPECIALLY THESE FIVE KEY PEOPLE.
THEY GUARD THE BOSS'S DAUGHTER.
REALLY?


THEY'RE THE ONES WHO KIDNAPPED UVO.
BUT UVO SAID NONE OF THEM IS THE CHAIN DUDE.
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THE CHAIN DUDE LOOKS LIKE, SO WE HAVE TO FIND SOMEONE WHO ***DOES.***
OH, I KILLED THIS GUY.
YOU CAN CROSS HIM OFF.
KEEP WORKING IN PAIRS, AND DO YOUR BEST TO FIND THE GUYS ON THE LIST.
LET'S MEET BACK HERE AT 10 P.M.!
HEY.
NOBUNAGA GOING TO BABY-SIT.
WHO SHOULD I TEAM UP WITH?
THERE ARE TEN OF US. TEAM UP WITH WHOEVER'S LEFT.
...
♥


OWW!
THAT WAS STUPID OF ME.
HISOKA WOULD HAVE KILLED ME IN A SECOND IF I'D MOVED... BUT I WAS PARALYZED!!

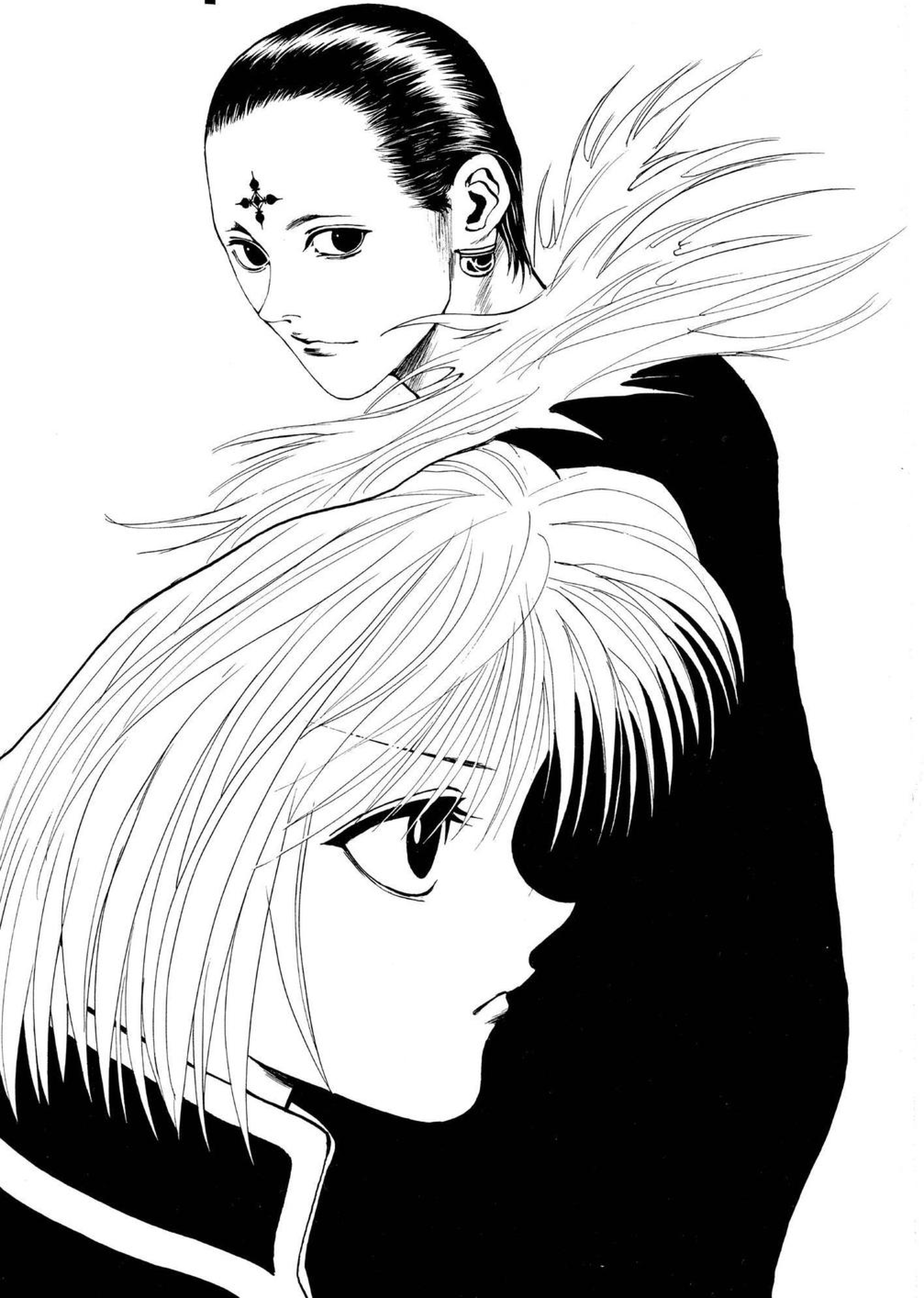
READ THIS WAY

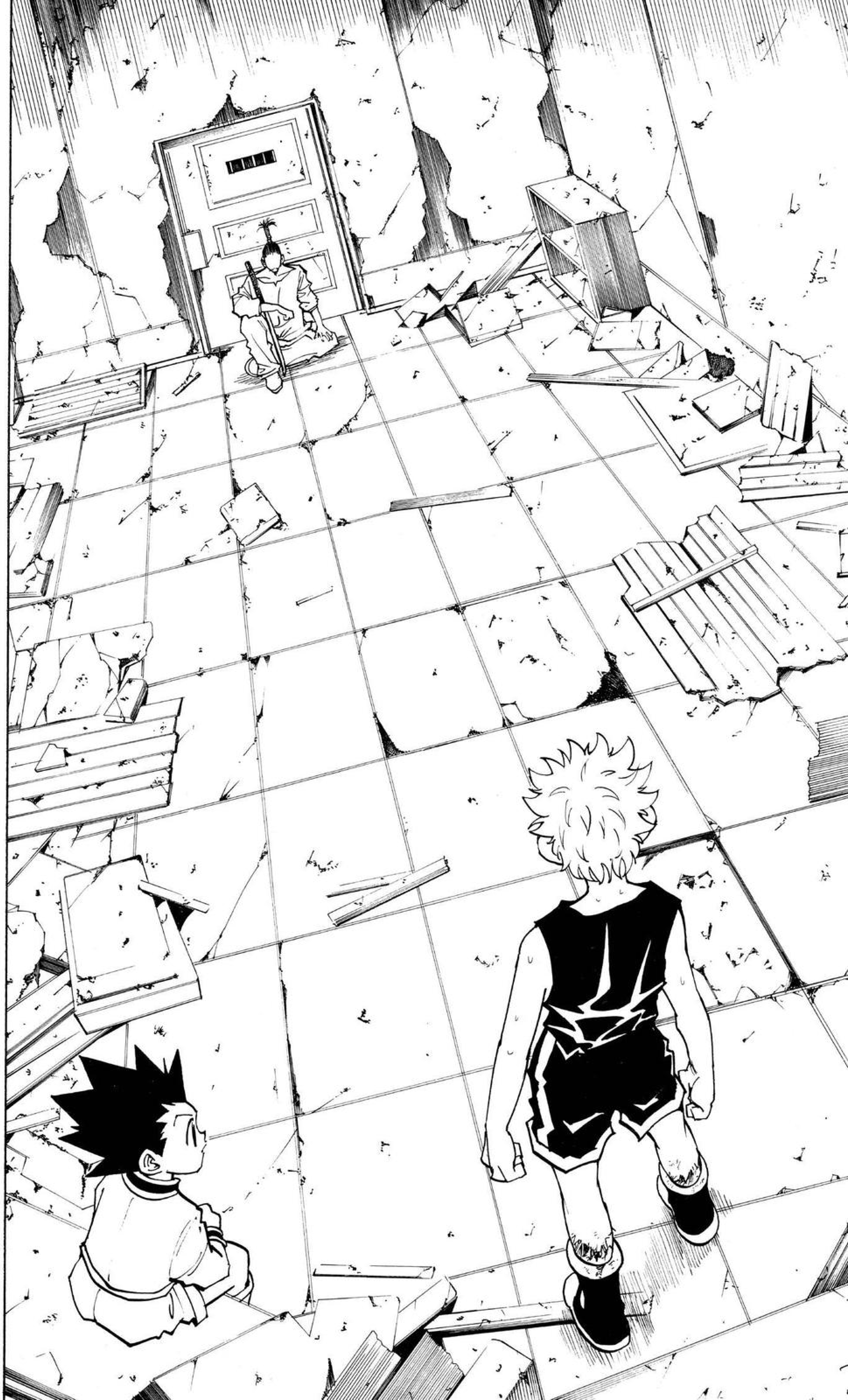

IF THEY'D THREATENED TO KILL GON ...
...COULD I HAVE STOPPED THEM?
I RATHER DOUBT IT.
YOU'RE WRONG!!
YOU'RE ONLY THINKING ABOUT FIGHTING ME!
IT'S IN YOUR EYES, BUT BEWARE!
KILLING HIM WILL BE THE ONLY THING THAT WILL MATTER.
NEVER GO UP AGAINST A SUPERIOR OPPONENT.
YOU'RE NOT EVEN THINKING ABOUT YOUR "FRIEND"...
YOU'RE WRONG!!
YOU CANNOT HOPE TO BEAT ME.
YOU KNOW THAT CAN'T HAPPEN.
YOU'RE WRONG!!
SHF

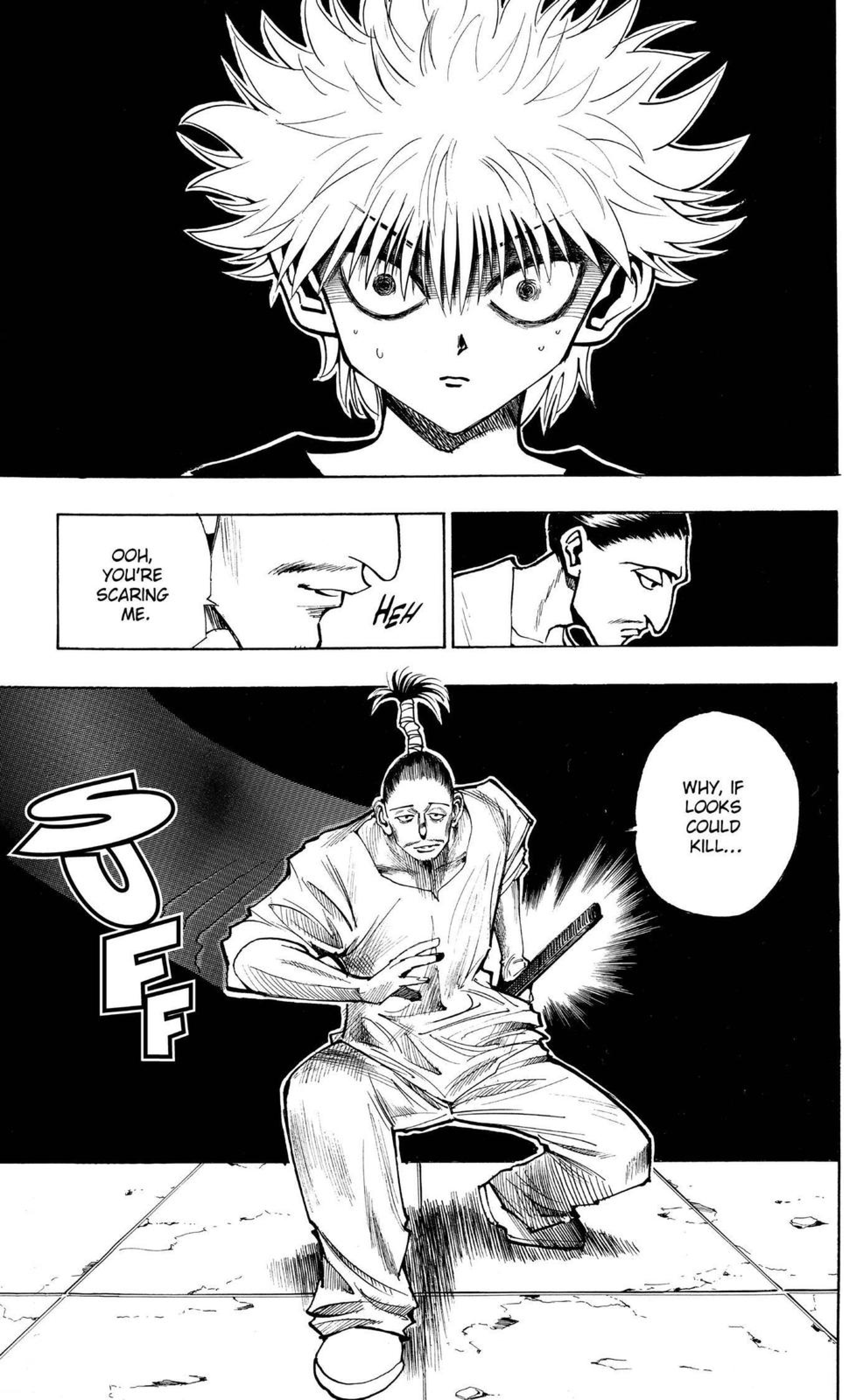

THERE'S GONNA BE A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT IN VOLUME 11!!

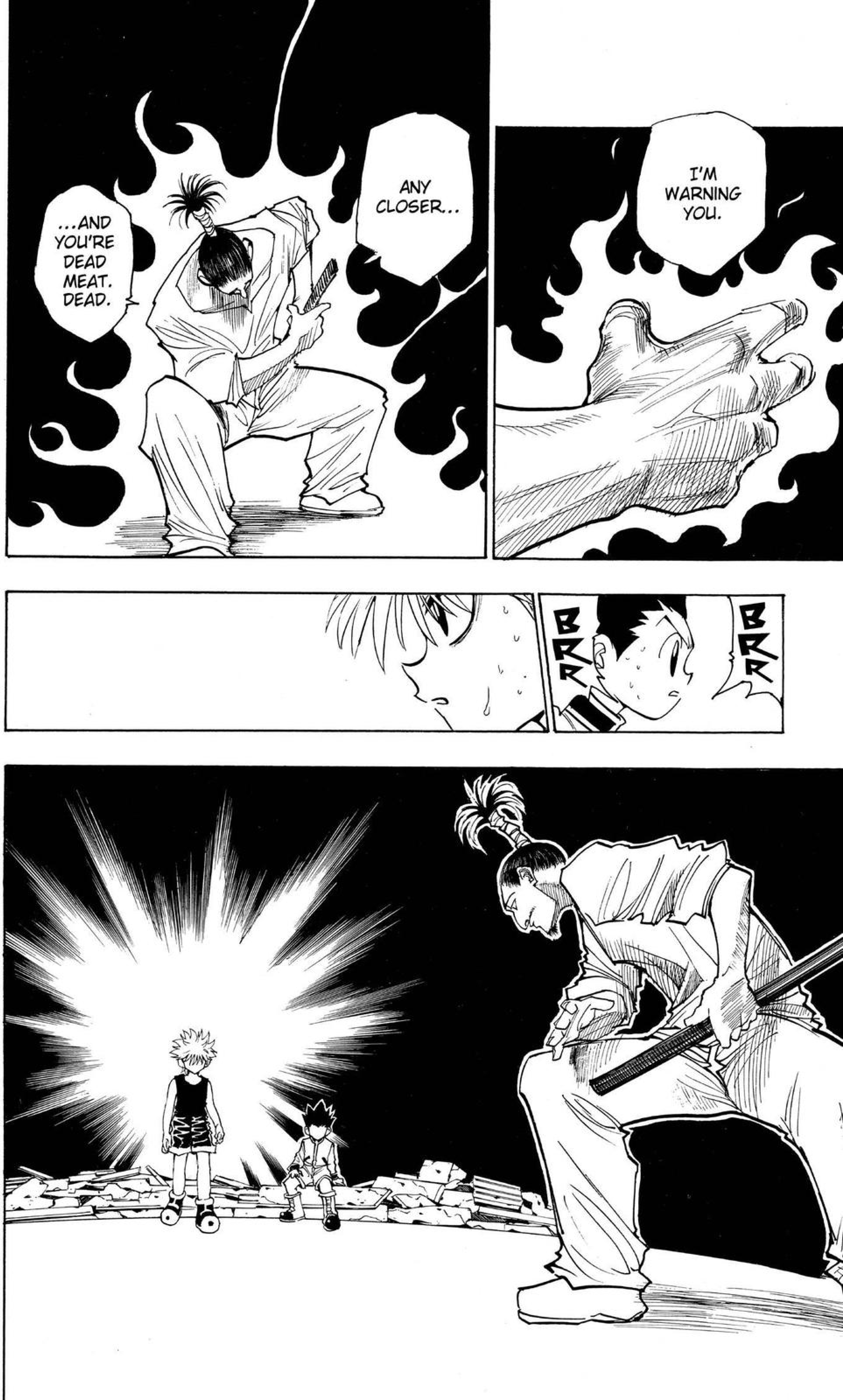
Chapter 93

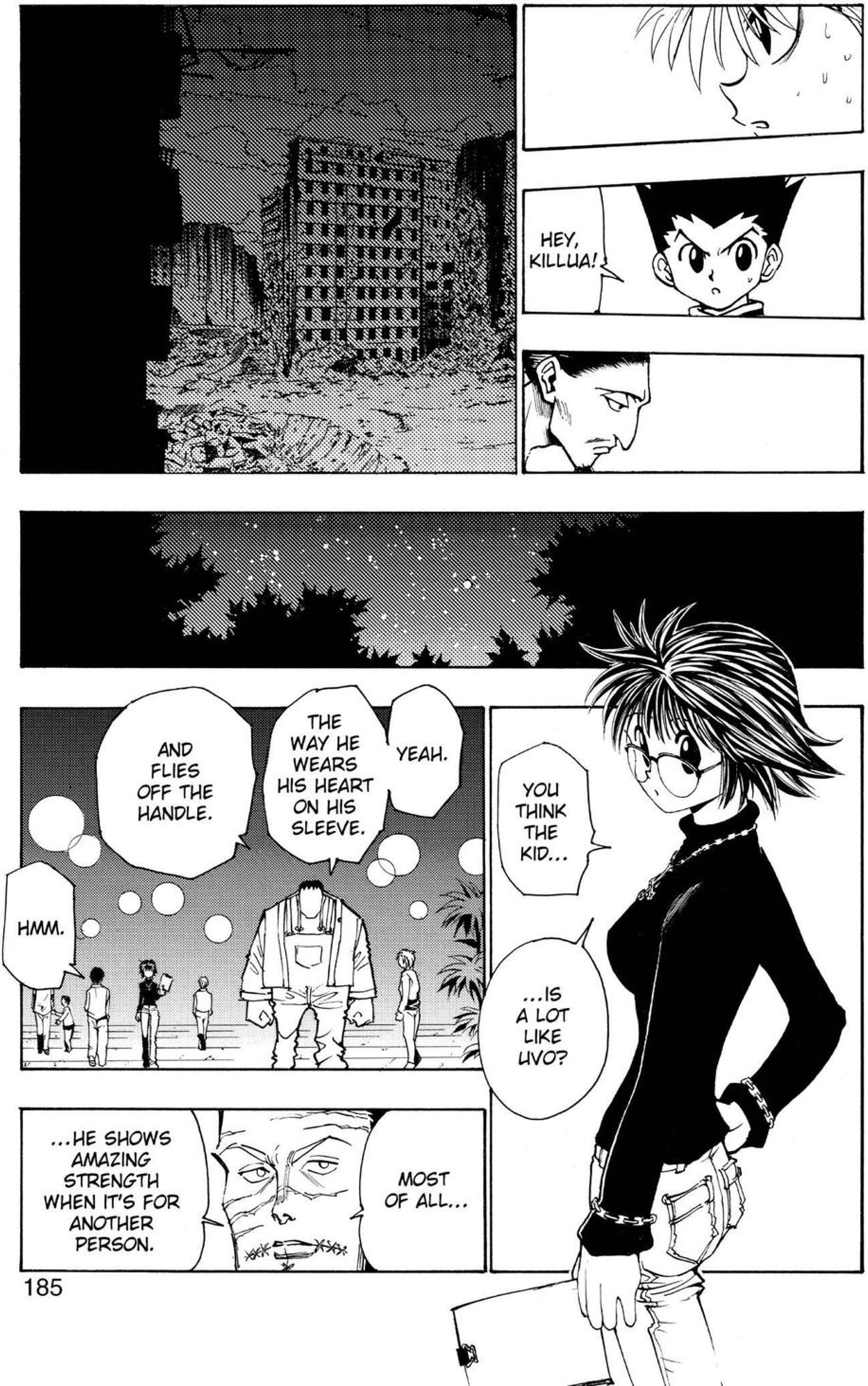
September 3rd: Part 9

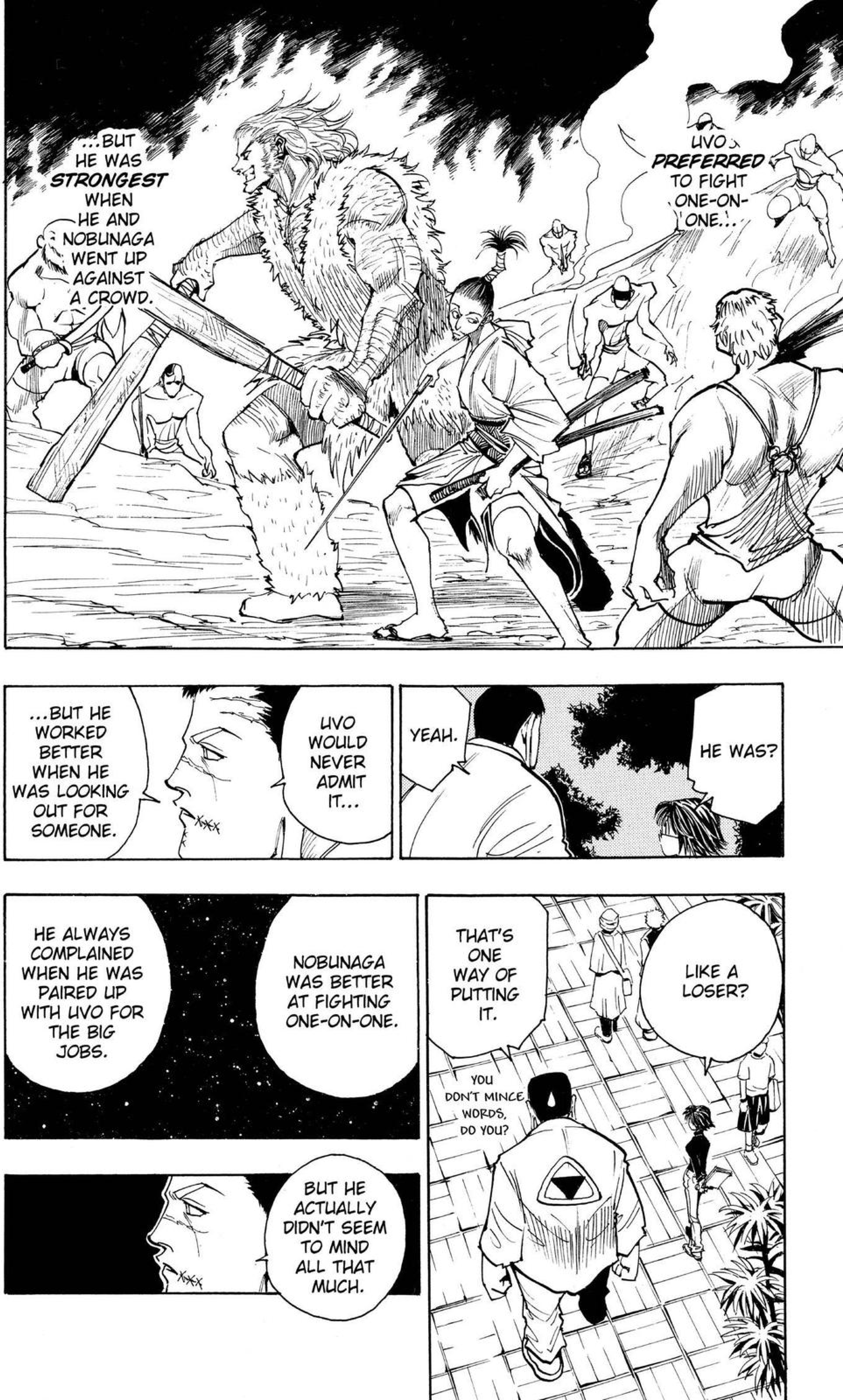


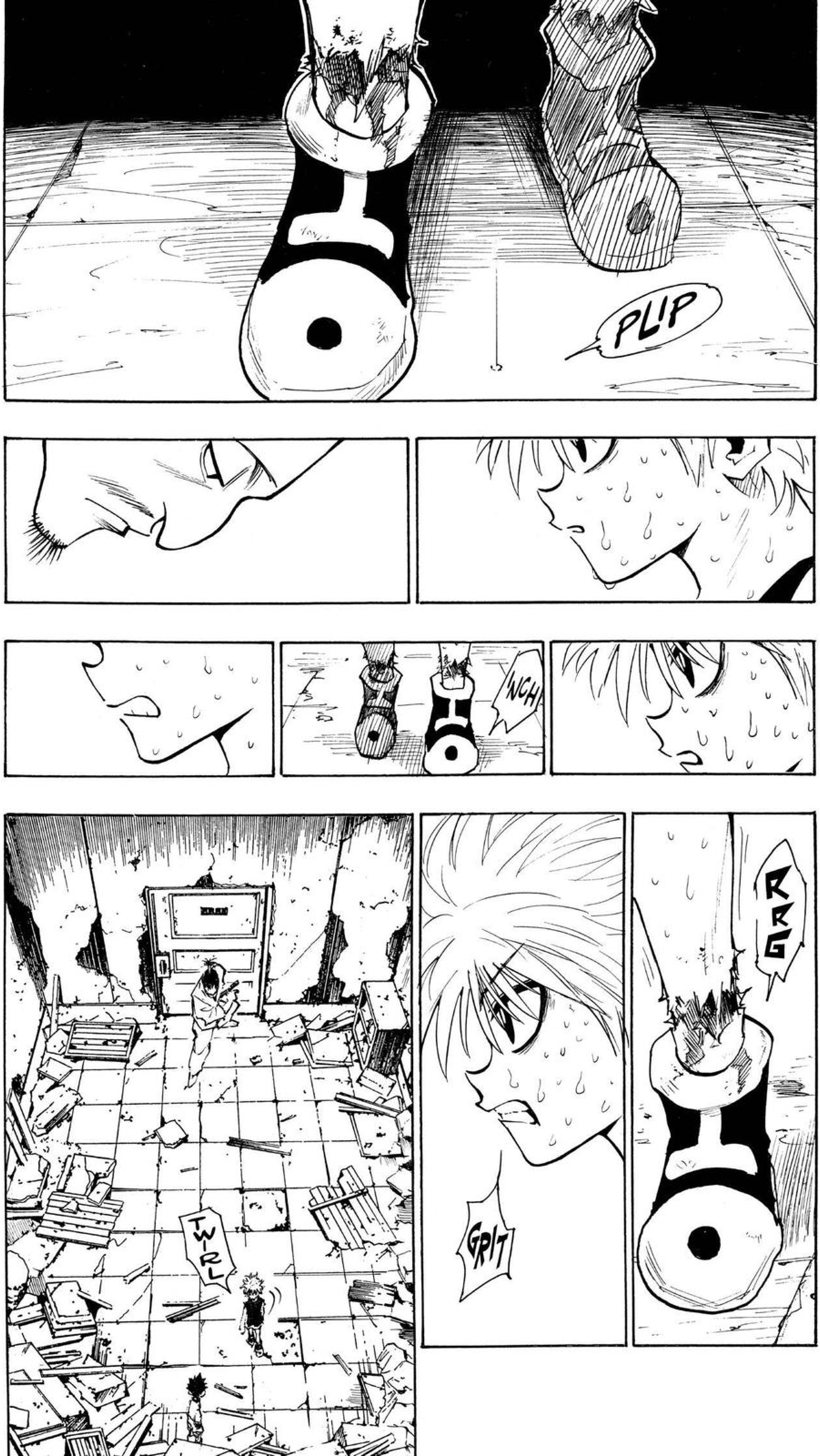


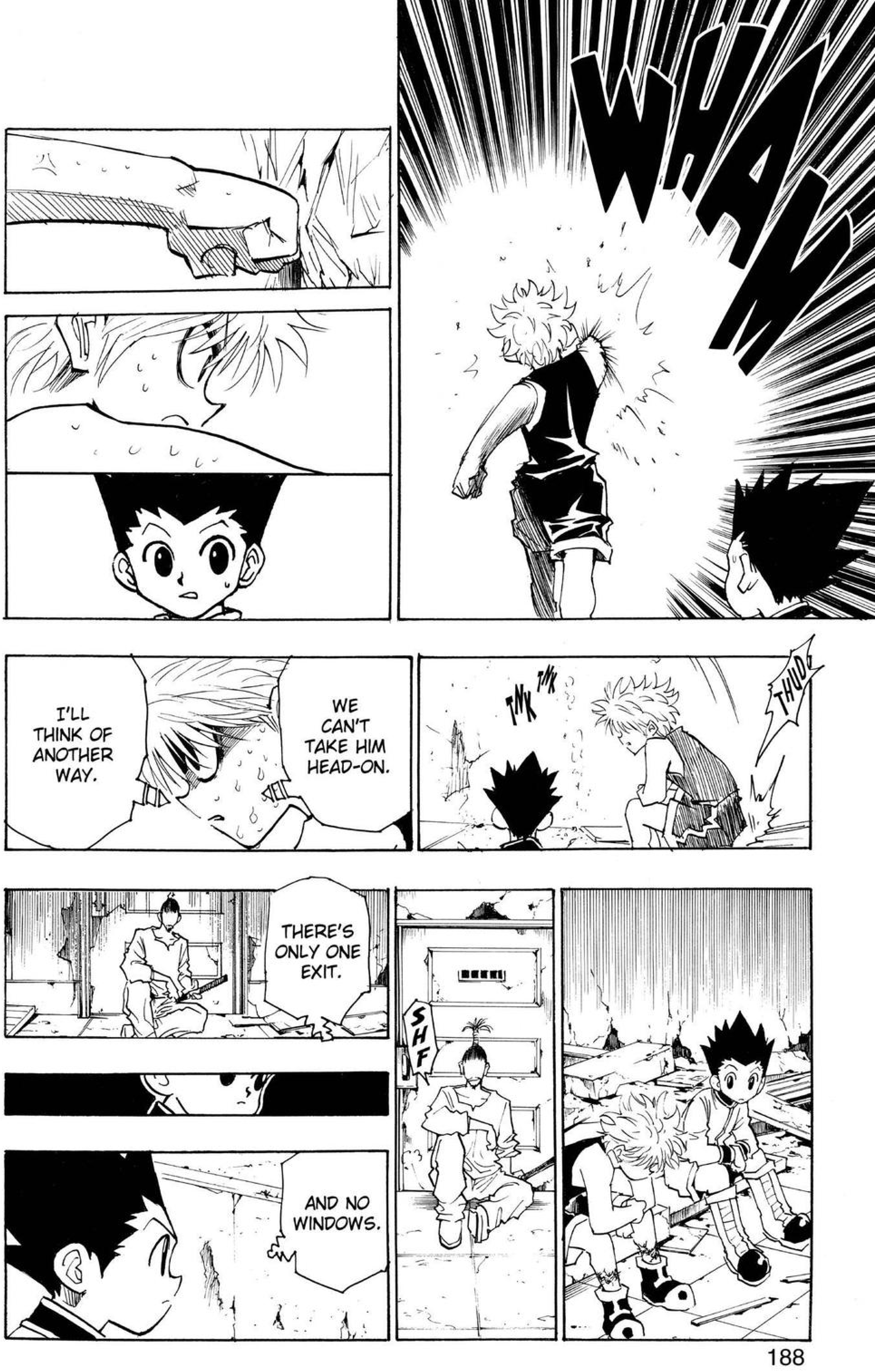

OOH, YOU'RE SCARING ME.
HEH
WHY, IF LOOKS COULD KILL...
SUFF


I'M WARNING YOU.
ANY CLOSER...
...AND YOU'RE DEAD MEAT. DEAD.
BRR
BRR

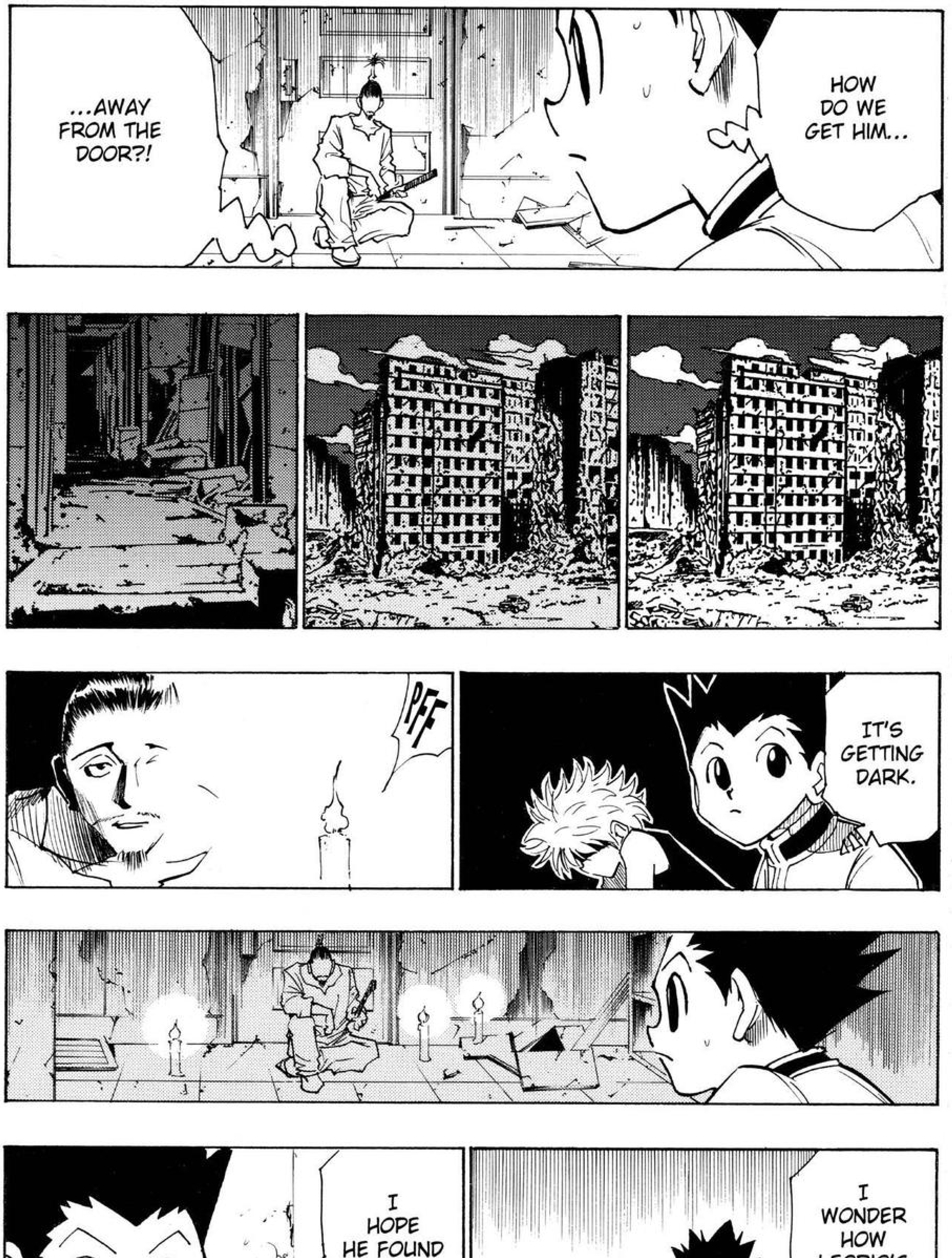

HEY, KILLUA!
YOU THINK THE KID...
...IS A LOT LIKE UVO?
YEAH.
THE WAY HE WEARS HIS HEART ON HIS SLEEVE.
AND FLIES OFF THE HANDLE.
HMM.
MOST OF ALL...
...HE SHOWS AMAZING STRENGTH WHEN IT'S FOR ANOTHER PERSON.

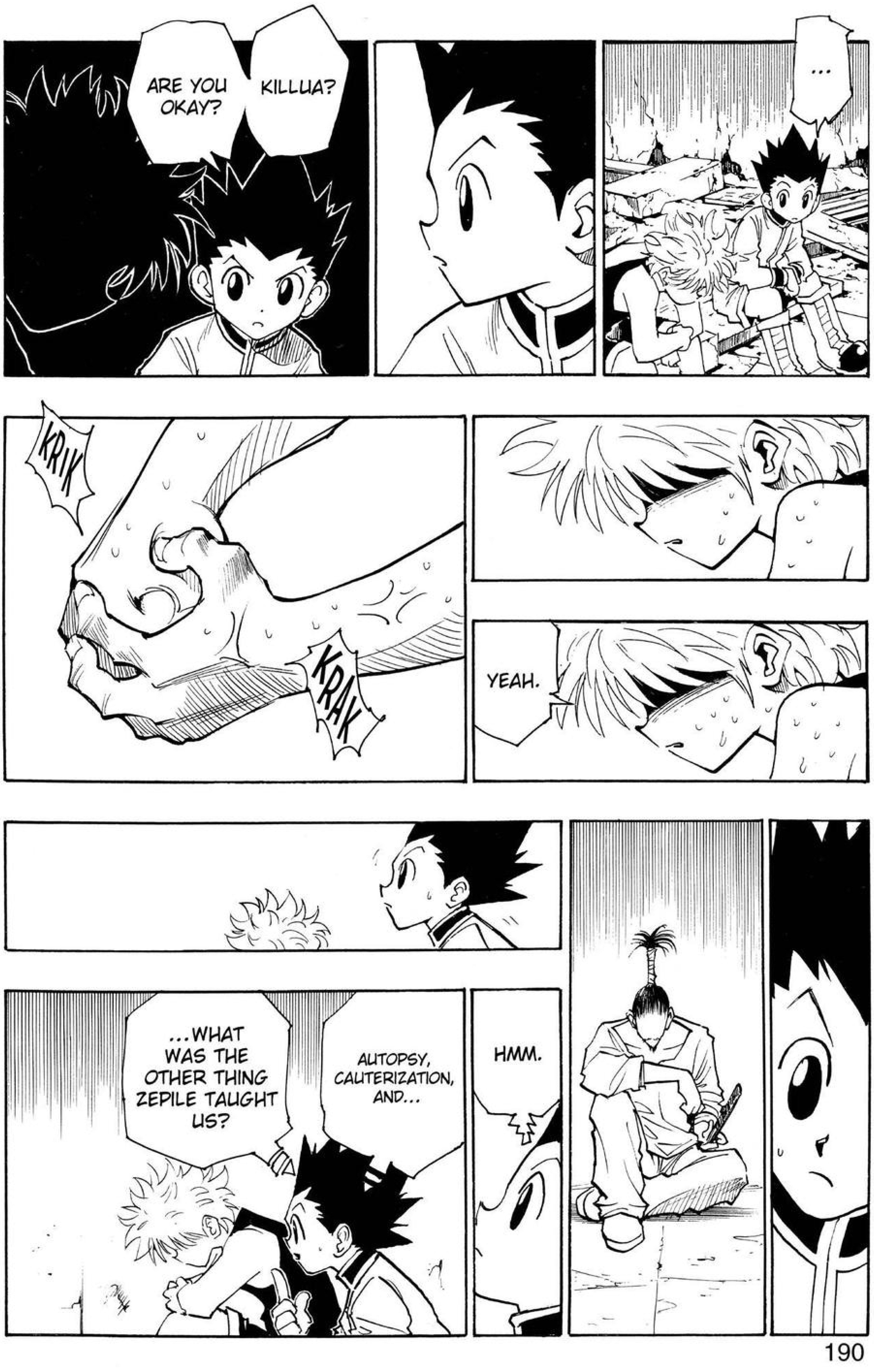

UVO PREFERRED TO FIGHT ONE-ON-ONE...
...BUT HE WAS STRONGEST WHEN HE AND NOBUNAGA WENT UP AGAINST A CROWD.
HE WAS?
YEAH.
UVO WOULD NEVER ADMIT IT...
...BUT HE WORKED BETTER WHEN HE WAS LOOKING OUT FOR SOMEONE.
LIKE A LOSER?
THAT'S ONE WAY OF PUTTING IT.
YOU DON'T MINCE WORDS, DO YOU?
NOBUNAGA WAS BETTER AT FIGHTING ONE-ON-ONE.
HE ALWAYS COMPLAINED WHEN HE WAS PAIRED UP WITH UVO FOR THE BIG JOBS.
BUT HE ACTUALLY DIDN'T SEEM TO MIND ALL THAT MUCH.


PLIP
'NCH
RRG
GRIT
TWIRL

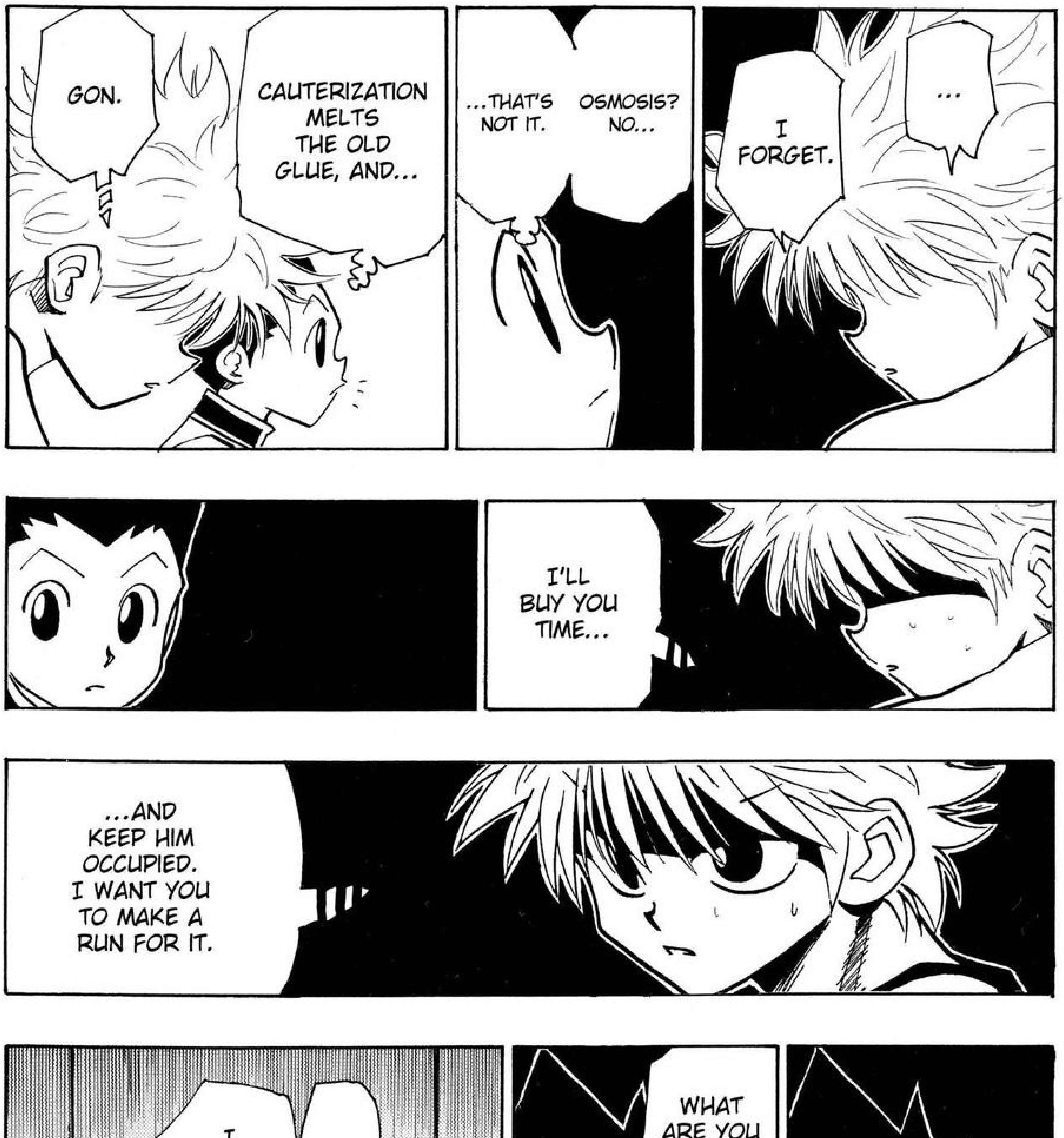

WHAM
TNK TNK
THUD
WE CAN'T TAKE HIM HEAD-ON.
I'LL THINK OF ANOTHER WAY.
SHF
THERE'S ONLY ONE EXIT.
AND NO WINDOWS.

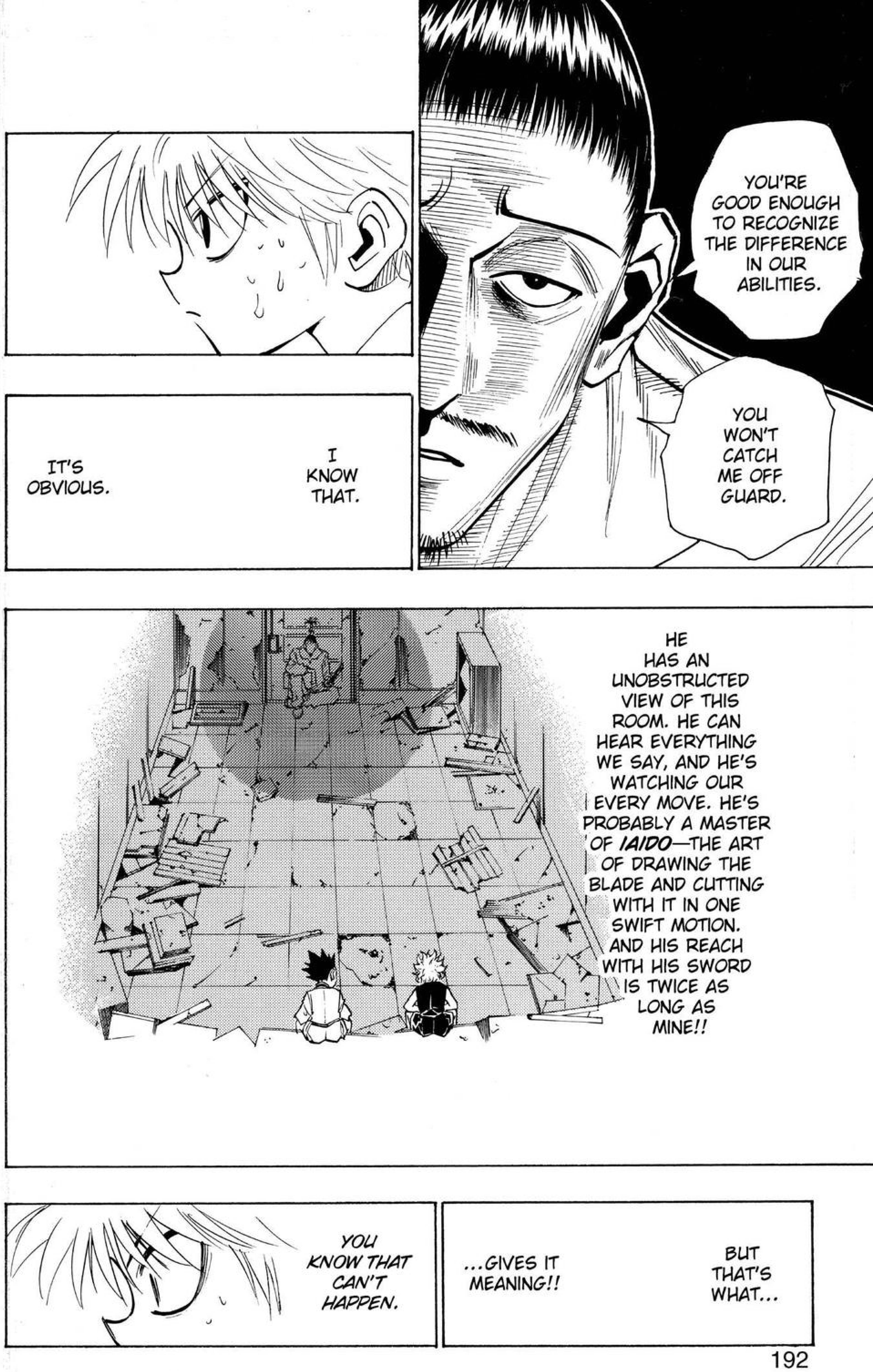
READ THIS WAY


HOW DO WE GET HIM...
...AWAY FROM THE DOOR?!
IT'S GETTING DARK.
PFF
I WONDER HOW LEORIO'S DOING?
I HOPE HE FOUND ZEPILE.

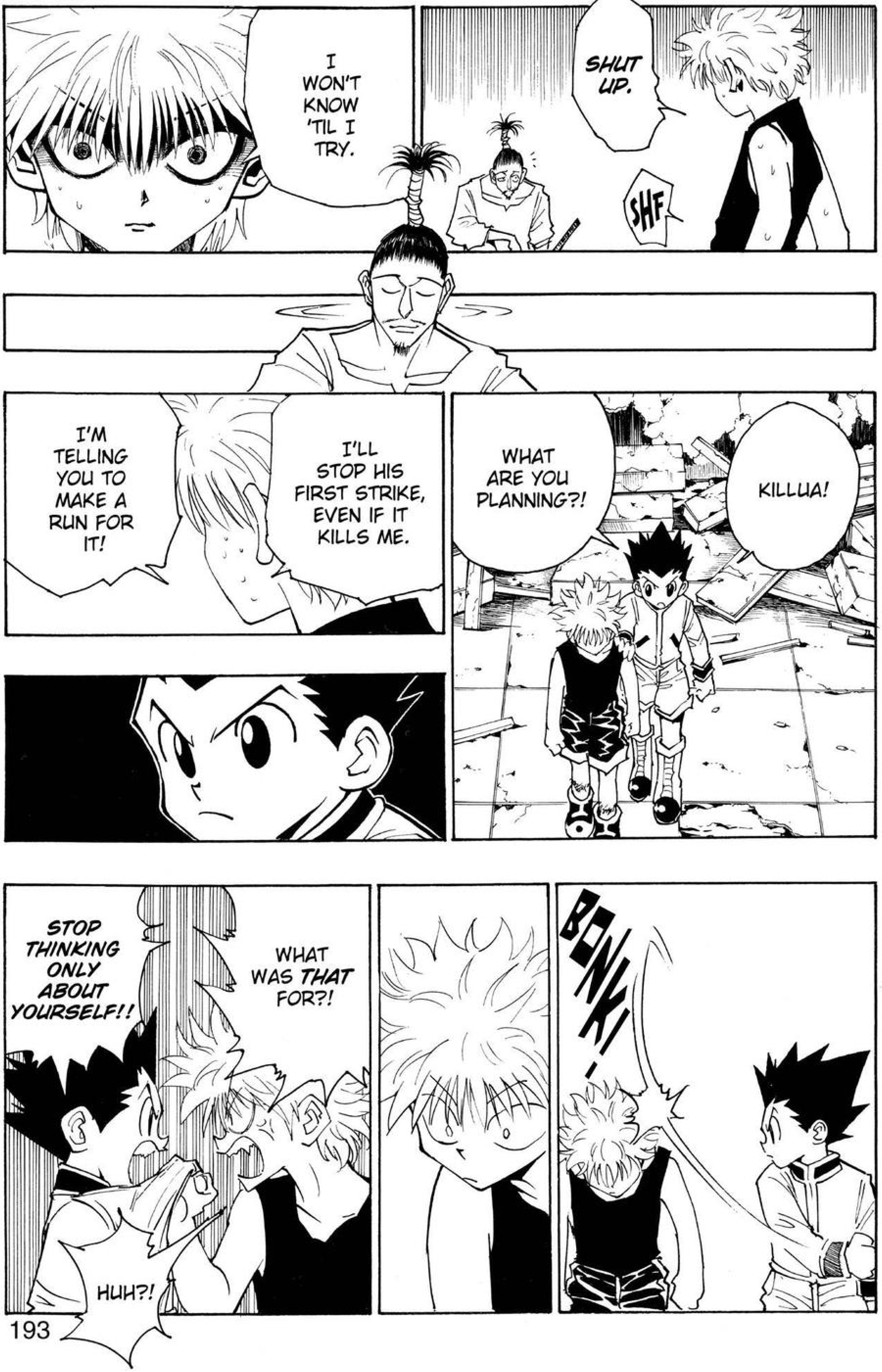

...
KILLUA?
ARE YOU OKAY?
KRIK
KRAK
YEAH.
HMM.
AUTOPSY, CAUTERIZATION, AND...
...WHAT WAS THE OTHER THING ZEPILE TAUGHT US?

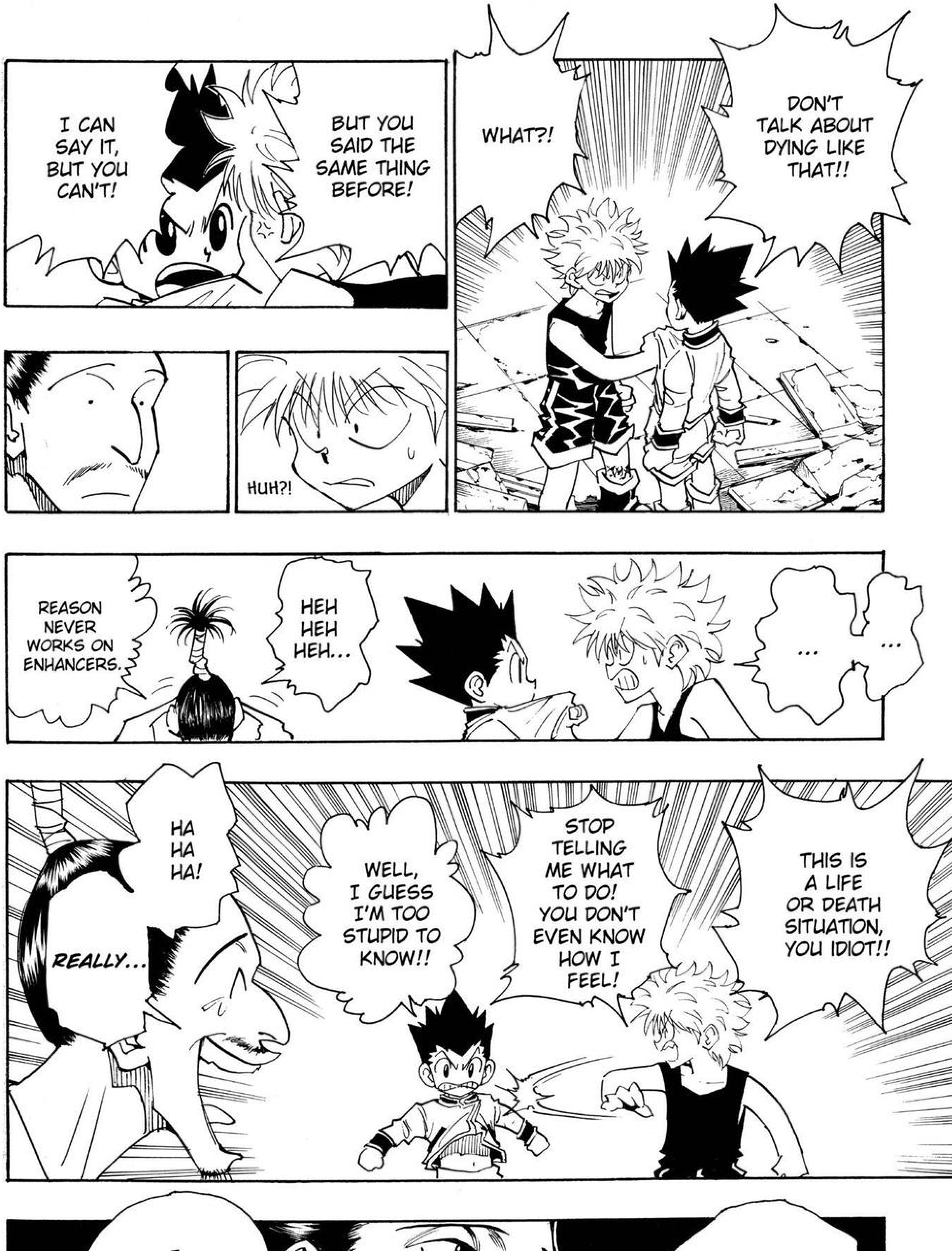
READ THIS WAY


…
I FORGET.
OSMOSIS? NO…
…THAT'S NOT IT.
CAUTERIZATION MELTS THE OLD GLUE, AND…
GON.
I'LL BUY YOU TIME…
…AND KEEP HIM OCCUPIED. I WANT YOU TO MAKE A RUN FOR IT.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
INDEED.
I WOULDN'T TRY IT.

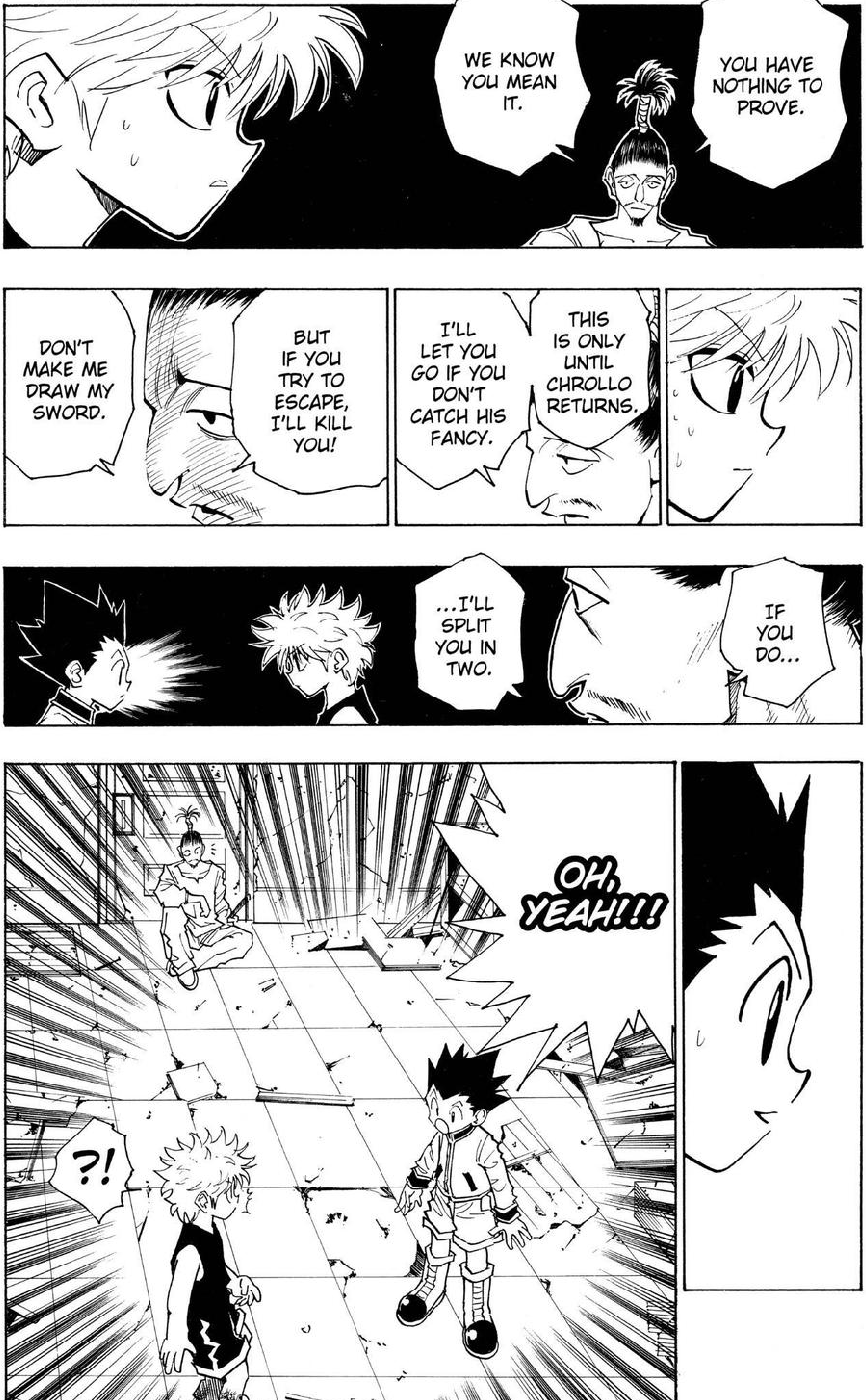

YOU'RE GOOD ENOUGH TO RECOGNIZE THE DIFFERENCE IN OUR ABILITIES.
YOU WON'T CATCH ME OFF GUARD.
I KNOW THAT.
IT'S OBVIOUS.
HE HAS AN UNOBSTRUCTED VIEW OF THIS ROOM. HE CAN HEAR EVERYTHING WE SAY, AND HE'S WATCHING OUR EVERY MOVE. HE'S PROBABLY A MASTER OF *IAIDO*—THE ART OF DRAWING THE BLADE AND CUTTING WITH IT IN ONE SWIFT MOTION. AND HIS REACH WITH HIS SWORD IS TWICE AS LONG AS MINE!!
BUT THAT'S WHAT...
...GIVES IT MEANING!!
YOU KNOW THAT CAN'T HAPPEN.

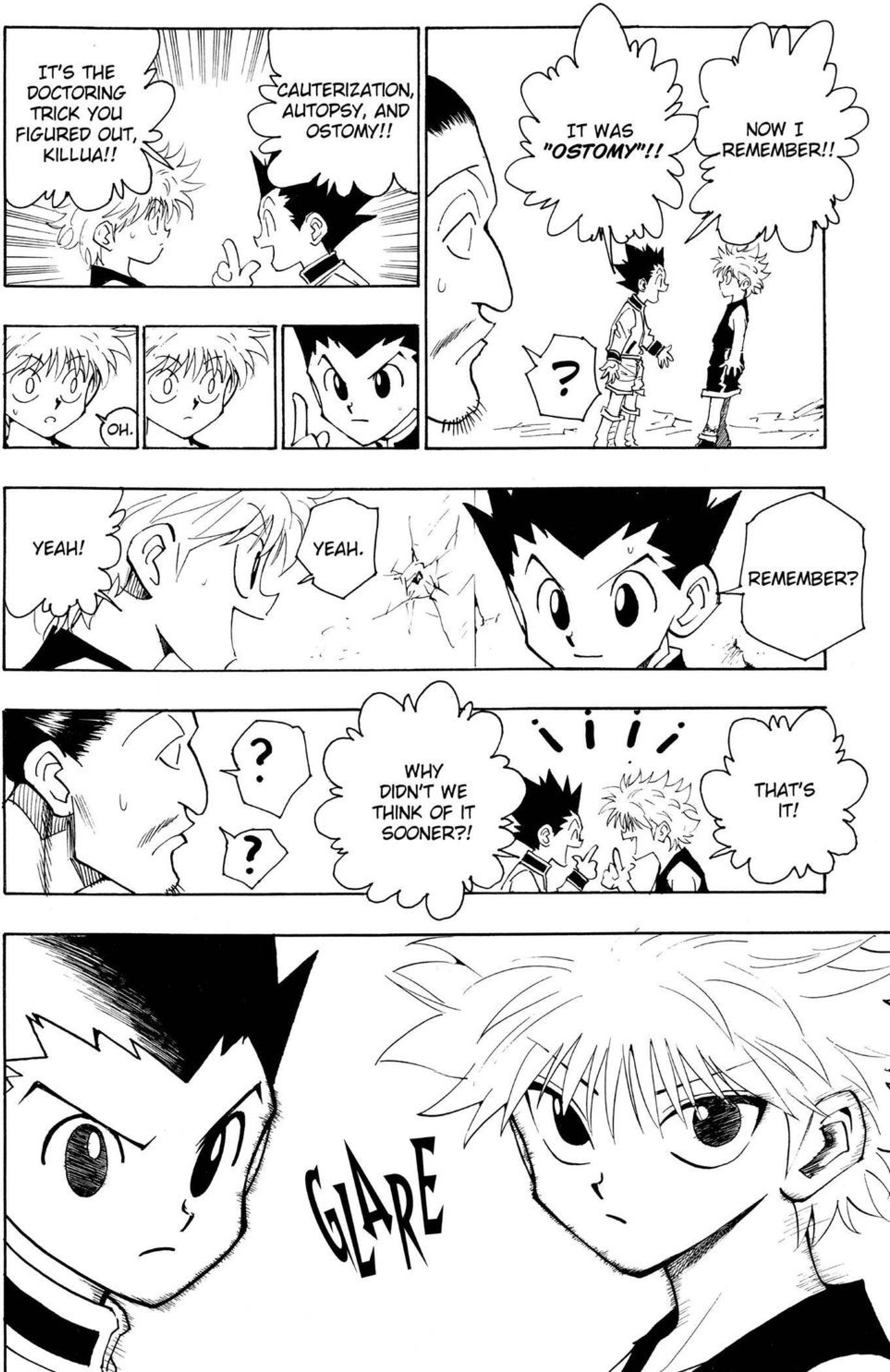
READ THIS WAY


SHUT UP.
SHF
I WON'T KNOW 'TIL I TRY.
KILLUA!
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING?!
I'LL STOP HIS FIRST STRIKE, EVEN IF IT KILLS ME.
I'M TELLING YOU TO MAKE A RUN FOR IT!
BONK!
WHAT WAS *THAT* FOR?!
STOP THINKING ONLY ABOUT YOURSELF!!
HUH?!

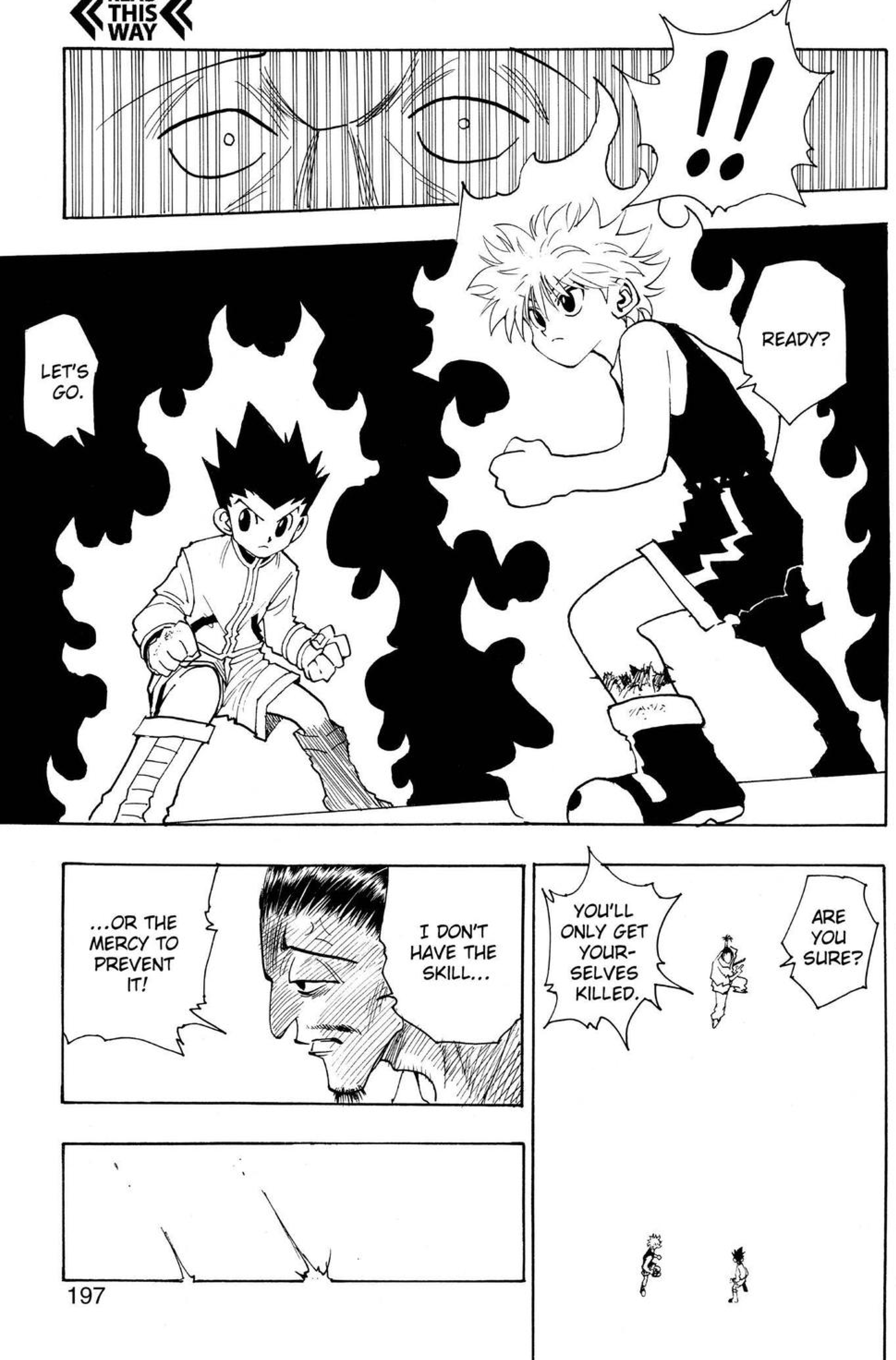

DON'T TALK ABOUT DYING LIKE THAT!!
WHAT?!
BUT YOU SAID THE SAME THING BEFORE!
I CAN SAY IT, BUT YOU CAN'T!
HUH?!
... ...
HEH HEH HEH...
REASON NEVER WORKS ON ENHANCERS.
THIS IS A LIFE OR DEATH SITUATION, YOU IDIOT!!
STOP TELLING ME WHAT TO DO! YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW I FEEL!
WELL, I GUESS I'M TOO STUPID TO KNOW!!
HA HA HA!
REALLY...
YOU GUYS ARE A LAUGH A MINUTE.
I WON'T TRY ANYTHING. JUST SIT TIGHT.

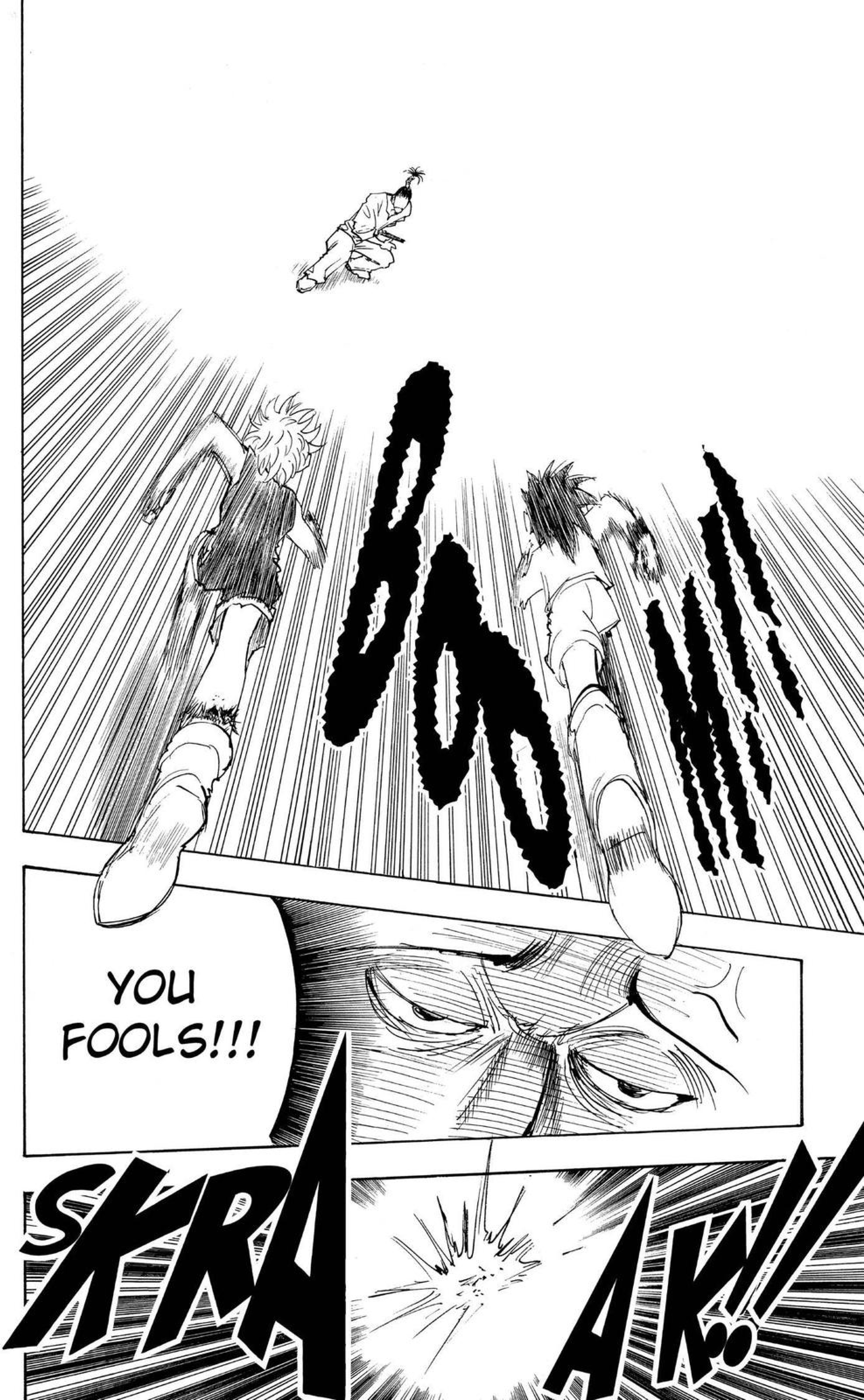
READ THIS WAY

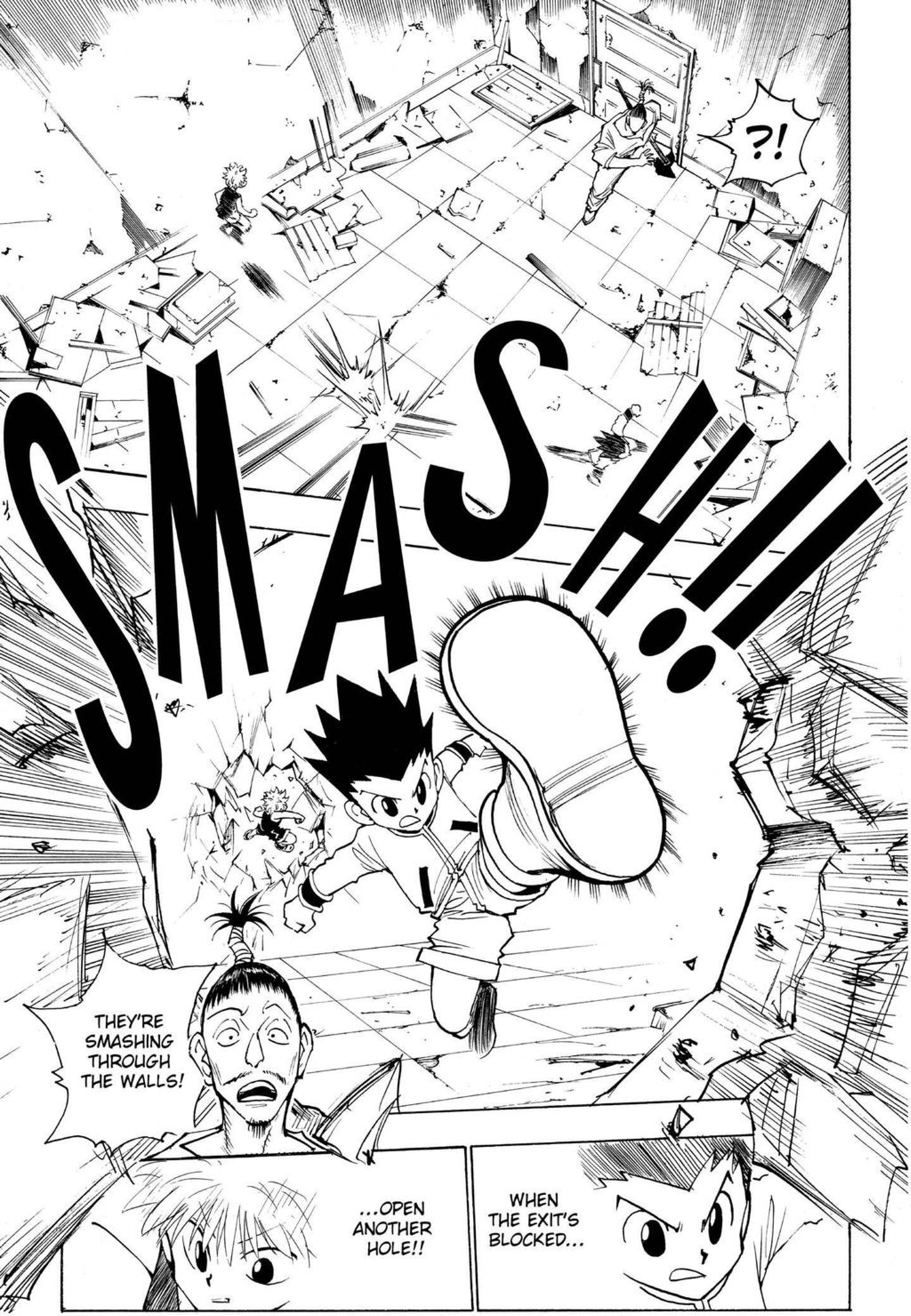

YOU HAVE NOTHING TO PROVE.
WE KNOW YOU MEAN IT.
THIS IS ONLY UNTIL CHROLLO RETURNS.
I'LL LET YOU GO IF YOU DON'T CATCH HIS FANCY.
BUT IF YOU TRY TO ESCAPE, I'LL KILL YOU!
DON'T MAKE ME DRAW MY SWORD.
IF YOU DO...
...I'LL SPLIT YOU IN TWO.
OH, YEAH!!!
?!


NOW I REMEMBER!!
IT WAS "OSTOMY"!!
?
CAUTERIZATION, AUTOPSY, AND OSTOMY!!
IT'S THE DOCTORING TRICK YOU FIGURED OUT, KILLUA!!
OH.
REMEMBER?
YEAH.
YEAH!
THAT'S IT!
WHY DIDN'T WE THINK OF IT SOONER?!
?
?
GLARE

READ THIS WAY


!!
READY?
LET'S GO.
ARE YOU SURE?
YOU'LL ONLY GET YOURSELVES KILLED.
I DON'T HAVE THE SKILL…
…OR THE MERCY TO PREVENT IT!


BOOM!!
YOU FOOLS!!!
SKRAAK!!


?!
SMASH!!
THEY'RE SMASHING THROUGH THE WALLS!
WHEN THE EXIT'S BLOCKED…
…OPEN ANOTHER HOLE!!